

## **F.G. Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway Closure - Baycrest Ride**

**Date:** January 11, 2022  
**To:** Infrastructure and Environment Committee  
**From:** General Manager, Transportation Services  
**Wards:** 4, 10, 13, 14, 16, 19

### **SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to request City Council approval to close the F.G. Gardiner Expressway and Don Valley Parkway on June 5, 2022 for the purpose of the Baycrest Ride in support of the Baycrest Foundation.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the closure of the F.G. Gardiner Expressway, from the Humber River to the Don Valley Parkway, including all ramps, and the Don Valley Parkway, from the F.G. Gardiner Expressway to York Mills Road, including all ramps, on June 5, 2022 from 2:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., for the Baycrest Ride event;
2. City Council prohibit other road closures due to events or film permits on arterial roads bounded by Highway 401, Warden Avenue, Lake Ontario, Humber River, Queen Street/The Queensway, and Yonge Street, as they will be required to accommodate overflow traffic from the expressway closures resulting from the Baycrest Ride event;
3. City Council request the Toronto Transit Commission to not schedule any subway closures during the period the Baycrest Ride event is held; and
4. City Council require the organizer to pay, within 90 days of the City issuing an invoice, any costs incurred to the City to secure the work zones along the F. G. Gardiner Expressway during the F. G. Gardiner Expressway rehabilitation work.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

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The permit costs for the Baycrest Ride is estimated at \$55,000. The event organizers will be responsible for the full costs associated with the Baycrest Ride event. There are no direct budgetary implications to the City.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

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City Council at its meeting of March 27, 2019, by adoption of IE2.2, authorized the closure of the F.G. Gardiner Expressway and the Don Valley Parkway for the Ride for Heart 2019, 2020 and 2021 events and prohibited road closures due to event or film permits on surrounding arterial roads in order to accommodate overflow traffic.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.IE2.2>

## **COMMENTS**

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Municipal Code Chapter 937-4, Temporary Closing of Highways, requires the General Manager of Transportation Services to obtain Council authority to temporarily close the F. G. Gardiner Expressway and the Don Valley Parkway.

In the past, portions of Lake Shore Boulevard, the F.G. Gardiner Expressway and all of the Don Valley Parkway have been closed for similar events. The Baycrest Ride is proposing to host their event on June 5, 2022 consisting of a 25 km, 50 km and 75 km distance rides with approximately 10,000 cyclists to participate in the event and expected to raise over \$4 million for their foundation.

The proposed route for the event on June 5, 2022 is as follows:

1. F.G. Gardiner Expressway, both directions, from the Humber River to the Don Valley Parkway;
2. The Don Valley Parkway, both directions, from the F.G. Gardiner Expressway to York Mills Road; and
3. The westbound north curb lane of Lake Shore Boulevard West from Ontario Drive to Jameson Avenue.

The rationale to using the F.G. Gardiner Expressway and Exhibition Place for this event is that all downtown venues are accessible via Lake Shore Boulevard West which is maintained as an alternate route.

Vehicles travelling eastbound on the F.G. Gardiner Expressway will be diverted to Lake Shore Boulevard West near the Humber River and continue eastbound unobstructed through the entire event area, once again, minimizing any potential traffic congestion. The proposal has TTC's approval and will permit all bus and streetcar routes to operate normally.

The applicant has agreed to, and is responsible for, extensive public notification and bearing the costs associated with the installation and removal of advance and event-day traffic signing, barricades, security, and policing services. Increased advance advisory signing has reduced the number of complaints for past events.

A copy of the route map is shown on Attachment 1.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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Barbara Gray  
General Manager, Transportation Services

# ATTACHMENTS

## Attachment 1: 2022 BAYCREST RIDE ROUTE MAP

