

Accessible Loading Zone - Somerset Avenue

Date: June 13, 2022

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 9, Davenport

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter that Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make the final decision.

Transportation Services is recommending the installation of a designated on-street accessible loading zone on the east side of Somerset Avenue, between Geary Avenue and Davenport Road.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council designate an accessible loading zone to be in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the east side of Somerset Avenue, between a point 148.7 metres north of Geary Avenue and a point 10.0 metres further north.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The signage costs associated with the proposed installation of the accessible loading zone is approximately \$400.00. Funding is available within the Transportation Services 2022 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

Transportation Services received a request from an accessible permit holder, to investigate the feasibility of installing an accessible loading zone in front of their residence on Somerset Avenue, between Geary Avenue and Davenport Road, to allow curbside access for accessible vehicles during pick-up/drop-off scenarios.

Existing Conditions

Somerset Avenue is characterized by the following conditions:

- One-way, northbound traffic, local roadway
- It operates on a pavement width of approximately 7.3 metres.
- The daily average one-way northbound traffic volume is approximately 500 vehicles and the posted speed limit is 30 km/h.
- Heavy vehicles are prohibited at all times.
- There is no Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service provided.
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street.

The parking regulations on Somerset Avenue, within the subject section are as follows:

East Side

- Permit parking from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., from Geary Avenue to Davenport Road.
- 1-hour maximum parking from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Three-hour maximum parking, at all other times (unsigned, statutory).

West Side

- No parking, anytime.

Transportation Services provides designated on-street accessible loading zone as a convenience for people with disabilities and/or those who transport them, making it easier for them to find a pick-up/drop-off space, as near as possible to their places of residence or intended destinations and reducing the distances that the disabled people must walk.

Transportation Services has been advised by a resident of Somerset Avenue that Wheel-Trans vehicles and accessible taxi cabs have difficulty in accessing the curb fronting her house due to the presence of parked vehicles. As a result, resident with accessible permit is facing problems during pick-up/drop-off times.

The Ward Councillor has been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Roger Browne, M.A.Sc., P. Eng.
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map - Accessible Loading Zone - Somerset Avenue

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