

Construction Staging Area Time Extension - 1 Bloor Street West (Yonge Street, Bloor Street and Balmuto Street)

Date: November 14, 2022
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 11, University-Rosedale

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Yonge Street and Bloor Street West, City Council approval of this report is required. Further, since this report contains recommendations that do not comply with City policy or by-laws, City Council approval of this report is required.

Mizrahi Development Group (The One) Inc. (the "developer") is constructing a mixed-use development at 1 Bloor Street West (Mizrahi Project). The site is located on the southwest corner of Yonge Street and Bloor Street West. The development will consist of an eight-storey high retail podium and an 86-storey high residential tower.

A five-metre-wide portion of the northbound curb lane and east sidewalk on Balmuto Street from a point 29 metres south of Bloor Street West to a point 12 metres further south is currently closed to accommodate construction staging operations for the development. The west sidewalk and a three-metre-wide portion of the southbound curb lane on Yonge Street, between Bloor Street West and a point 66 metres south are also closed. In addition, the south sidewalk and a 1.2-metre-wide portion of the eastbound curb lane on Bloor Street West, between Yonge Street and a point 49 metres west are closed.

Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting on November 25 and 26, 2020, approved the construction staging area on Balmuto Street from November 30, 2020 to November 30, 2022. In a separate meeting on March 10, 2021, Toronto and East York Community Council approved an extension of the construction staging areas on Yonge Street and Bloor Street West from September 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021. The developer has requested an additional extension of the duration of the construction staging areas on Balmuto Street, Yonge Street both Bloor Street West, as the site has experienced a number of construction delays related to COVID-19.

Transportation Services is requesting authorization to extend the duration of the construction staging areas on Balmuto Street, Yonge Street and Bloor Street West for an additional 31 months, from December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive, to allow for the construction of the development to be completed.

Transportation Services is also requesting the authority for the General Manager of Transportation Services to issue a Temporary Street Occupation permit for Balmuto Street to the developer, notwithstanding that not all the criteria within the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of, for so doing would be met.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council authorize for purposes of construction at 1 Bloor Street West the temporary closure to vehicular traffic of a five-metre-wide portion of the northbound curb lane and to pedestrian traffic a portion of the east sidewalk, both on Balmuto Street, between a point 29 metres south of Bloor Street West and a point 12 metres further south, from December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive.
2. City Council authorize for purposes of construction at 1 Bloor Street West the temporary closure to pedestrian traffic of the west sidewalk and to vehicular traffic of a three-metre-wide portion of the southbound curb lane, both on Yonge Street, between Bloor Street West and a point 66 metres south, from December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive.
3. City Council authorize for purposes of construction at 1 Bloor Street West the temporary closure to pedestrian traffic of the south sidewalk and to vehicular traffic of a 1.2-metre-wide portion of the eastbound curb lane, both on Bloor Street West, between Yonge Street and a point 49 metres west, from December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive.
4. City Council direct the applicant to continue posting a 24-hour monitored construction hotline number on the hoarding board, which must be prominently placed and legible from 20 metres and on all elevations from the construction site.
5. City Council direct the applicant to continue providing and installing public art, including mural artwork, onto every elevation of the hoarding board with adequate spotlighting for night-time illumination, at their sole cost, to the satisfaction of the Ward Councillor.
6. City Council direct the applicant to continue sweeping the construction site daily and nightly, or more frequently as needed to be cleared of any construction debris and made safe.

7. City Council direct the applicant to continue pressure washing the construction site and adjacent sidewalks and roadways weekly, or more frequently as needed to be cleared of any construction debris and made safe.
8. City Council direct the applicant to continue ensuring that the existing sidewalks or the proposed pedestrian walkway have proper lighting to ensure safety and visibility at all times of the day and night.
9. City Council direct the applicant to continue consulting and communicating all construction, parking and road occupancy impacts with local business improvement areas and resident associations in advance of any physical road modifications.
10. City Council direct the applicant to provide a sufficient number of traffic control persons as determined by the Work Zone Traffic Coordinator and Toronto Police Construction Liaison Officer, on a daily basis to control construction vehicle access and egress to and from the site and maintain a safe environment for the public.
11. City Council direct the applicant to provide a sufficient number of pay-duty Police Officers as determined by the Work Zone Traffic Coordinator and Toronto Police Construction Liaison Officer during large scale concrete pours and large scale material deliveries to control vehicle access and egress to and from the site and maintain a safe environment for the public.
12. City Council direct the applicant to continue installing appropriate signage and converging mirrors to ensure that pedestrians, cyclists and motorists safety is considered at all times.
13. City Council direct that Balmuto Street, Bloor Street West and Yonge Street be returned to their pre-construction traffic regulations and lane configurations when the project is completed.
14. City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, to issue a Temporary Street Occupation permit to Mizrahi Development Group (The One) Inc. for the period of December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive, for a portion of Balmuto Street, from a point 29 metres south of Bloor Street West and a point 12 metres further south, without Mizrahi Development Group (The One) Inc. having to comply with certain requirements of the City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of, as more generally described in the report from the Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services (dated November 14, 2022) and, where the approval conflicts with Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of, the approval of the General Manager, Transportation Services shall prevail to the extent of the conflict.
15. City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, to issue a Temporary Street Occupation permit to Mizrahi Development Group (The One) Inc. for the period of December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive, for a portion of Yonge Street, between Bloor Street West and a point 66 metres south, and a Temporary Street Occupation permit to Mizrahi Development Group (The One) Inc. for the period of December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive, for a portion of Bloor Street West, between Yonge Street and a point 49 metres west.

16. City Council direct the General Manager, Transportation Services, to not issue any other Temporary Street Occupation permit for the period of December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive, for a portion of Balmuto Street, from a point 29 metres south of Bloor Street West and a point 12 metres further south.

17. City Council direct the applicant to continue ensuring adequate winter maintenance of all the areas that are not accessible by the City of Toronto Contracted Services, within the affected area designated on the construction management plan.

18. City Council direct the applicant to continue visually improving the pumping station fence by providing and installing public art, in a manner that does not block sightlines for vehicles exiting the laneway.

19. City Council direct the applicant to continue only placing additional bollards and traffic signage on the street fifteen minutes prior to operating the pump; to removing them within fifteen minutes of discontinuing use of the pump; and to not placing them in legal parking areas.

20. City Council direct the applicant to continue ensuring that cement trucks and other construction vehicles and equipment do not queue or park on Balmuto Street, and that they do not block access for service vehicles accessing the properties at 21 and 35 Balmuto Street.

21. City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, to negotiate, enter into and execute an updated indemnity agreement with Mizrahi Development Group (The One) Inc. to address the City's interests with respect to any and all temporary street occupations and closures on Balmuto Street on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager, Transportation Services, and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.

22. City Council direct that parts 1 to 20, inclusive, above, be subject to Mizrahi Development Group (The One) Inc. entering into the indemnity agreement in part 21 above.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact to the City. Mizrahi Developments is responsible for all costs, including payment of fees to the City for the occupancy of the right-of-way. Based on the area enclosed and projected duration of the proposed temporary closures on Balmuto Street, Yonge Street and Bloor Street West, these fees will be approximately \$1,200,000.00 including lost revenue from the parking machines (if applicable).

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting on March 10, 2021, adopted Item TE23.57 entitled "Construction Staging Area Time Extension - 1 Bloor Street West, Phase 2 - (Yonge Construction Staging Area Time Extension - 1 Bloor St W (Yonge St, Bloor St W and Balmuto St)

Street and Bloor Street West)" and, in so doing, authorized the closure of the sidewalk and a portion of the southbound lane on Yonge Street and the closure of the sidewalk and a portion of the eastbound lane on Bloor Street West, from September 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2021.TE23.57>

City Council, at its meeting on November 25 and 26, 2020, adopted Item TE20.29 entitled "Construction Staging Area - 1 Bloor Street West (Balmuto Street)" and, in so doing, authorized the closure of the sidewalk and a portion of the northbound lane on Balmuto Street, from November 30, 2020 to November 30, 2022.

[Agenda Item History - 2020.TE20.29 \(toronto.ca\)](#)

City Council, at its meeting on November 26 and 27, 2019, adopted Item TE10.27, entitled "Construction Staging Area Time Extension Phase 2 - Yonge Street and Bloor Street West -1 Bloor Street West" to extend the closure of the sidewalk and a portion of the southbound lane on Yonge Street and the closure of the sidewalk and a portion of the eastbound lane on Bloor Street West, until August 31, 2020.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2019.TE10.27>

City Council, at its meeting on October 2, 3 and 4 2017, adopted Item TE26.69 entitled "Construction Staging Area (Phase 1) Yonge Street and Bloor Street West (1 Bloor Street West)" and, in so doing, authorized the closure of the sidewalk and a portion of the southbound lane on Yonge Street and the closure of the sidewalk and a portion of the eastbound lane on Bloor Street West, from October 9, 2017 to October 31, 2019.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2017.TE26.69>

COMMENTS

Status of the Development

A mixed-use development (The One) is currently being constructed by Mizrahi Developments at 1 Bloor Street West. The site is bounded by Bloor Street West to the north, Yonge Street to the east and existing commercial uses to the south and west.

The development, in its completed form, will include an 86-storey high residential condominium building atop an eight-storey high retail podium. Retail uses will also be provided in a below grade concourse level. A four-level underground parking garage will be provided.

Major construction activities and associated timelines for the development are described below:

- Above grade formwork: Ongoing to June 2025;
- Building envelope phase: Ongoing to June 2025; and
- Interior finishes stage: Ongoing to January 2026.

Based on the information provided by the developer at the time of this report, construction of the below-grade activities, and construction of the multi-storey podium and lower levels of the tower, are complete. The developer has requested an extension of the duration of the construction staging areas on Balmuto Street, Yonge Street and Bloor Street West due to COVID-19 construction delays, and to allow completion of the construction project, from December 14, 2022 to June 30, 2025, inclusive.

Construction Staging Areas

Traditionally, Transportation Services prefers to have the construction staging areas abutting the development. In fact, the delegated authority given to the General Manager, Transportation Services to issue Temporary Street Occupation permits pursuant to City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of, provides that "a permit may be issued under this section when it is required on behalf of an owner of the lands abutting the street, or portion thereof that will be occupied temporarily by equipment or material that has been used, or that is intended to be used, for constructing, repairing, or demolishing a building or structure situated on the lands, or that will be otherwise temporarily occupied in connection with the applicants use of the lands". Irrespective of the above provision in Chapter 743, the General Manager may still issue a permit under Chapter 743 despite the temporary occupation of any portion of the street beyond the limit of the applicants property frontage on the street, where the adjoining property owner consents in writing and waives all claims against the City for losses and damages that may arise or result directly or indirectly from this occupation. The proposed temporary street occupation on Balmuto Street does not abut the Mizrahi Development Group (The One) Inc. Rather the proposed temporary street occupation on Balmuto Street would abut the property at 19 Bloor Street West. Given the above, City Council approval is required for the temporary street occupation to occur on Balmuto Street and to authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services, to issue a Temporary Street Occupation permit.

Construction staging operations for the development will continue to take place on Balmuto Street, where a five-metres-wide portion of the northbound curb lane and sidewalk will remain temporarily closed between a point 29 metres south of Bloor Street West and a point 12 metres further south. Pedestrians will continue to be accommodated on the east side of Balmuto Street within a 1.7-metre-wide portion of the existing sidewalk separated from the staging area by temporary construction fencing. Two-way traffic operations will be maintained on Balmuto Street within the remaining six-metre-wide roadway; however, during times when construction activities are taking place, traffic will be restricted to one lane controlled by traffic control persons.

Construction staging operations will also continue to take place within the road right-of-way on the west side of Yonge Street abutting the site. The sidewalk and southbound curb lane on the west side of Yonge Street, between Bloor Street West and a point 66

metres south, will continue to be temporarily closed to accommodate construction staging operations. Pedestrians are directed to a 2.1-metre-wide covered and protected walkway within the closed portion of the southbound curb lane. Yonge Street, in the immediate vicinity of the site, operates as one southbound traffic lane and two northbound traffic lanes.

The southbound curb lane on Yonge Street north of Bloor Street West is temporarily closed, between the stop bar and a point 30 metres north (including taper). Vehicles travelling in the southbound curb lane are channelized into the southbound-through traffic lane to achieve smooth traffic flow around the existing construction staging area on Yonge Street. Southbound right-turn movements at the intersection of Yonge Street and Bloor Street West are prohibited at all times. In addition, the TTC near-side bus stop on Yonge Street at Bloor Street West was relocated approximately 60 metres north of Bloor Street West.

Construction staging operations on Bloor Street West are setup within the existing boulevard abutting the site. The sidewalk and a portion of the curb lane on the south side of Bloor Street West, between Yonge Street and a point 49 metres west, are temporarily closed to accommodate construction staging operations. Pedestrians are directed to a 1.7 metre-wide covered and protected walkway within the temporarily closed portion of the eastbound curb lane. Existing vehicle and bicycle lanes will be maintained for both directions on Bloor Street West.

Overall, the existing construction staging areas are operating acceptably, and Transportations Services does not recommend any modifications to the area for the duration of the extension.

A review of the City's Five-Year Major Capital Works Program was undertaken to identify any conflicts between the proposed construction staging areas and planned capital works projects in the area. The review of the program at the time of this report indicates that in years 2025 to 2027, a cycling infrastructure installation project is planned on Bloor Street West, between Avenue Road to Yonge Street. In addition, a Business Improvement Area streetscape/intersection improvement project is planned on Yonge Street, between College Street and Davenport Road. In the event of any conflict with the planned capital works projects, the developer has been advised that the proposed construction staging areas will need to be modified or removed to accommodate the capital works project activities.

Transportation Services is satisfied that Mizrahi Developments has looked at all options to alleviate congestion at these locations.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

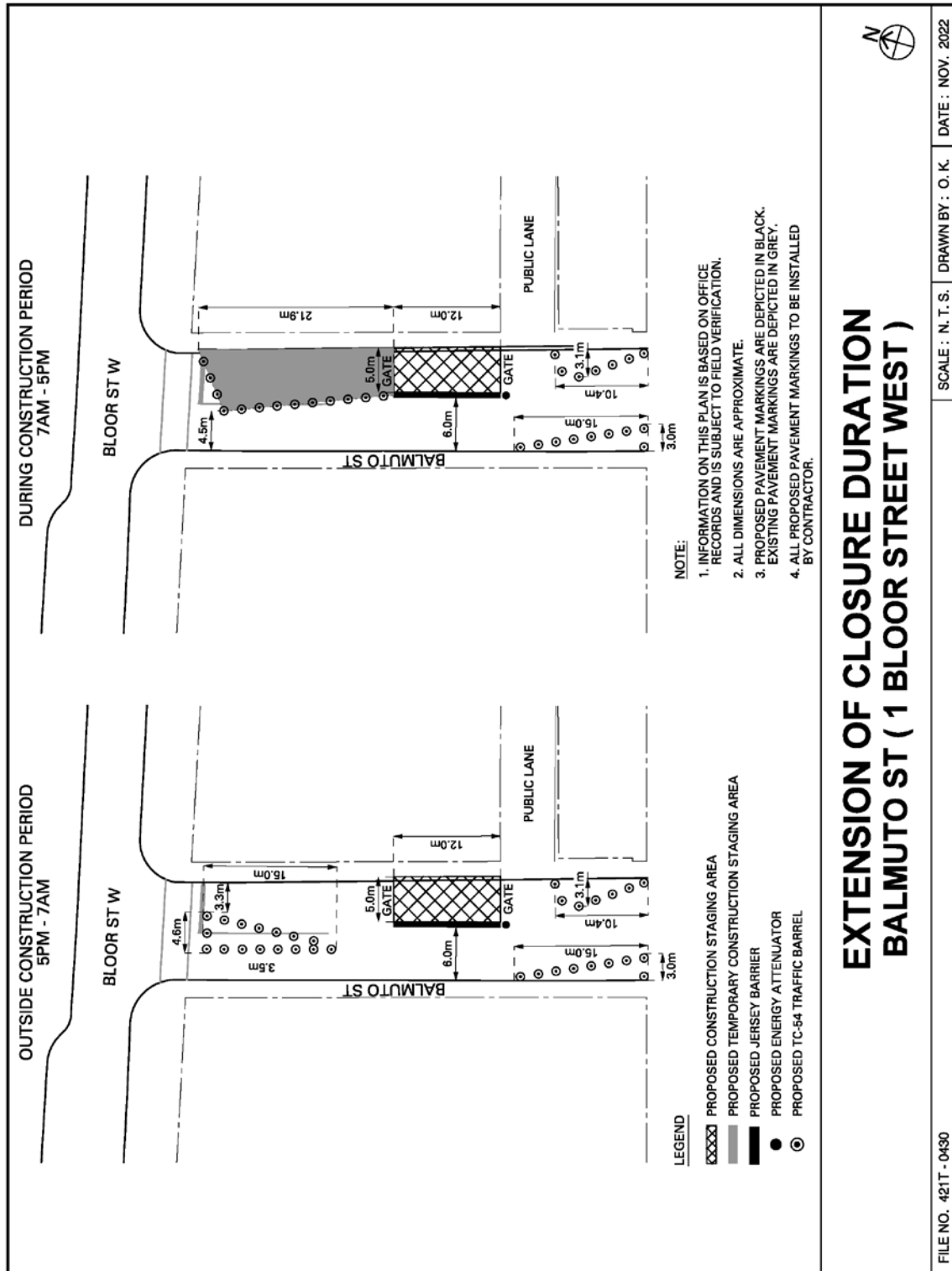
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Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Existing Construction Staging - 1 Bloor Street West (Balmuto Street)

Attachment 2: Existing Construction Staging Area - 1 Bloor Street West (Yonge Street and Bloor Street West)

Attachment 1: Existing Construction Staging Area - 1 Bloor Street West (Balmuto Street)



Attachment 2: Existing Construction Staging Area - 1 Bloor Street West (Yonge Street and Bloor Street West)

