



March 26, 2024

Dear Councillors,

On behalf of Pedal Pub Toronto, we write to you today to express our support for the recommendations in the staff report. We would like to thank Transportation Services staff that have worked with us over the last two years to make this Pilot a success.

We request that you consider two potential amendments:

1) Front Street

We are allowed on Adelaide, Richmond, Bathurst, etc., why not Front Street?

The reason is that it is specifically prohibited by the Pedicab by-law, which has its origins in the 1990's. This restriction is not relevant to us in 2024.

We request to be allowed to operate on Front Street because:

- Front St is less residential. It would allow us to reduce our use of Richmond Street, which is more residential, potentially mitigating future concerns
- It allows us to visit the cluster of bars and restaurants on Front near University Ave

We request that we be exempted from this restriction.

2) Operating Hours

This is another obsolete regulation from the Pedicab By-law. It prevents us from meeting the demand from groups looking for a Corporate Team Building activity.

The by-law prohibits Pedicabs from operating Monday-Friday between 3:30-6:30pm.

This is the exact time that corporate customers want to do tours. Generally corporate groups want to leave work a little early for their team building events.

We had to turn away over 50 corporate groups last year because of this restriction.

It hurts the bars and restaurants where we would take those corporate guests. And it's at times when those bars are slowest, hence the happy hour specials they usually offer at those times.

We request that we be exempted from this restriction so we can meet the demand from corporate groups.

Downside

What is the potential downside of these changes? Perhaps it's the perception that we might contribute to congestion.

As outlined in the report, none of the internal or external groups consulted reported any specific concerns.

We've been operating on Richmond, Adelaide, Bathurst, etc. for two years and there have been no concerns. So why not allow us to operate on Front Street and between 3:30-6:30pm? We have so few bikes on the road at any one time and we aren't the cause of congestion.

Conclusion

The changes proposed by staff, as well as those requested above, will result in more fun in Toronto, more visitors, and increased economic support for businesses in downtown Toronto.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Aleksandra Burke & Lyle Jones
Co-Owners
Pedal Pub Toronto