

Curb Lane Cafés - Bellair Street - 2024 Summer Closure

Date: April 17, 2024

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Permits and Enforcement, Transportation Services

Wards: 11

SUMMARY

The purpose of this staff report is to seek authorization of Toronto and East York Community Council to temporarily close a portion of Bellair Street from Cumberland Street to Yorkville Avenue to support six curb lane café operators in the CaféTO program. Additionally, Transportation Services is seeking authorization to revert traffic and on-street parking regulations on a portion of Cumberland Street that have yet to be implemented.

Transportation Services will report back in the fourth quarter of 2024 on the permanent seasonal closure of Bellair Street from Cumberland Street to Yorkville Avenue to support CaféTO operators.

Bellair Street is a local road and Cumberland Street is a collector road with no TTC services. The approval of these recommendations is delegated to the local Community Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Permits and Enforcement, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council temporarily close Bellair Street from Cumberland Street to Yorkville Avenue to vehicular traffic from May 1, 2024 to October 15, 2024, inclusive, to permit the installation of curb lane cafés under Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 742, Sidewalk Cafés, Parklets and Marketing Displays.
2. Toronto and East York Community Council request the General Manager, Transportation Services to report back to Toronto and East York Community Council in the fourth quarter of 2024 on the permanent seasonal closure of Bellair Street from Cumberland Street to Yorkville Avenue to motor vehicles to support CaféTO operators

and an expanded public realm; taking into consideration accessibility requirements, neighbourhood traffic impacts and any traffic operation modifications.

3. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit parking at all times on the north side of Cumberland Street, between a point 75 metres east of Avenue Road and a point 84 metres further east.

4. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit stopping from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.; and 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday on the north side of Cumberland Street, between a point 75 metres east of Avenue Road and a point 84 metres further east.

5. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit stopping at all times on the north side of Cumberland Street, between Avenue Road and a point 75 metres east.

6. Toronto and East York Community Council rescind the stopping prohibition in effect at all times on the north side of Cumberland Street, between Avenue Road and a point 159 metres east.

7. Toronto and East York Community Council rescind the one-way eastbound traffic designation on Cumberland Street, between a point 138.5 metres east of Avenue Road and Bay Street.

8. Toronto and East York Community Council rescind the westbound left turn prohibition in effect at all times on Cumberland Street, at Avenue Road.

9. Toronto and East York Community Council designate Cumberland Street, between Avenue Road and Bay Street as one-way for eastbound traffic only.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting of May 10, 2023, approved the temporary closure of Bellair Street from Cumberland Street and Yorkville Avenue and waived certain requirements under Chapter 742 for curb lane café permit holders on this portion of street.

[Agenda Item History - 2023.TE4.67 \(toronto.ca\)](#)

Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting of May 26, 2022, approved the conversion of Cumberland Street, between Avenue Road and Bellair Street from a one-way eastbound operation to a two-way operation.

[Agenda Item History - 2022.TE33.73 \(toronto.ca\)](#)

COMMENTS

Summer Closure of a portion of Bellair Street for CaféTO

Transportation Services is recommending the closure of Bellair Street to vehicular traffic from Cumberland Street to Yorkville Avenue from May 1, 2024 until October 15, 2024, inclusive, to permit six eating establishment operators under Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 742, Sidewalk Cafés, Parklets and Marketing Displays to operate a curb lane café. The previous authorization for this road closure was from May 15 to October 15; to align the dates of closure with the new CaféTO operating season, 14 additional days are being requested. All six operators are exempt from providing a temporary accessible platform as previously approved by City Council in 2023. Access for those with mobility devices is provided from street level and ramps are provided from the sidewalk to each operators area.

The notice of this closure has been circulated to Divisional partners and agencies. A portion of Bellair Street will remain accessible for emergency vehicles and Solid Waste Management Services through moveable barricades. The Bloor-Yorkville BIA and The Greater Yorkville Residents' Association are supportive of the closure.

Bellair Street is a one-way local road, with no TTC service and is a mix of commercial and residential properties. The closing of Bellair Street from Cumberland Street to Yorkville Avenue temporarily makes inaccessible a commercial loading zone and paid parking on the west side of the street and allows for expanded pedestrian space. A new temporary advisory loading zone will be added to Cumberland Street to support deliveries within the neighbourhood during this seasonal closure.

Bellair Street from Cumberland Street to Yorkville Avenue has previously been closed during the summer months in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 to support CaféTO Operators. Several comments have been received from the public and motorists about this closure. Staff have taken immediate steps, including advance warning signage for motorists and working with Divisional partners regarding solid waste. A new left phase signal is scheduled to be implemented this summer for eastbound traffic at Bay and Cumberland.

Transportation Services will report back in the fourth quarter of 2024 on the permanent seasonal closure of Bellair Street from Cumberland Street to Yorkville Avenue. Transportation Services will consult with the local Councillor, the BIA, residents' association, and impacted Divisions (i.e., Solid Waste, etc.) to determine next steps on this seasonal pedestrianization project to support CaféTO; taking into consideration neighbourhood traffic impacts and any traffic operation modifications that may be required.

Traffic and Parking Amendments – Cumberland Street, between Avenue Road and Bellair Street

At the request of the former Councillor, Toronto and East York Community Council approved the conversion of Cumberland Street, between Avenue Road and Bellair Street from a one-way eastbound operation to a two-way operation to provide motorists exiting all the driveways along this stretch an alternate route to exit the Yorkville area.

The former Councillor requested that implementation of this operational change be on hold given the planned CaféTO operators.

The traffic and on-street parking regulations on Cumberland Street, between Avenue Road and Bellair Street will need to revert back to previous conditions. Specifically converting this section of Cumberland Street so that it operates one-way in an eastbound direction. As part of the report back, staff will determine the feasibility of a future two-way conversion and its impact on any CaféTO permit-holders.

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SIGNATURE

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