

Metrolinx Ontario Line – Temporary Parking By-law Amendments on Church Street

Date: November 18, 2024

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Deputy General Manager, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 13, Toronto Centre

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates a transit service on Church Street, City Council approval of this report is required.

This report requests City Council approval to temporarily rescind existing timed parking prohibitions and No stopping prohibitions on Church Street between Adelaide Street East and Queen Street East and temporarily implement a “No Stopping” regulation to be in effect at all times on the east and west sides of Church Street, between Queen Street East and Adelaide Street East. The recommended traffic by-law amendment aims to improve road capacity and transit flow on the section of Church Street, which has been impacted by the TTC 501 Queen streetcar diversion due to the Ontario Line Queen Street closure.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Deputy General Manager, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. City Council rescind the existing parking prohibition in effect at all times on both sides of Church Street, between Queen Street East and Adelaide Street East, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.
2. City Council rescind the existing parking prohibition in effect from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays on the east side of Church Street, between Front Street East and Carlton Street, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.
3. City Council rescind the existing parking prohibition in effect from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays on the west side of Church Street, between Adelaide Street East and Carlton Street, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.

4. City Council rescind the existing stopping prohibition in effect from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays on the east side of Church Street, between King Street East and Carlton Street, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.
5. City Council prohibit stopping at all times on both sides of Church Street, between Adelaide Street East and Queen Street East, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.
6. City Council prohibit parking in effect from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays, on the east side of Church Street, between Front Street East and Adelaide Street East, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.
7. City Council prohibit parking in effect from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays, on the east side of Church Street, between Queen Street East and Carlton Street, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.
8. City Council prohibit parking in effect from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays, on the west side of Church Street, between Queen Street East and Carlton Street, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.
9. City Council prohibit stopping in effect from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, except public holidays, on the east side of Church Street, between King Street East and Adelaide Street East, from October 15, 2024, to November 30, 2027, inclusive.
10. City Council direct that Church Street be returned to its pre-construction traffic and parking regulations when the project is complete.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The signage costs associated with the proposed amendments is approximately \$24,000.00. Funding is available within the Transportation Services 2024 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting on December 15, 2021, adopted with amendments, Item 2021.EX28.14 titled “Ontario Line Downtown Stations – Temporary Road Closures and Community Impacts”, and approved temporary road closures for the Ontario Line downtown stations.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2021.EX28.14>

COMMENTS

Queen Street, between Bay Street and Victoria Street, has been temporarily closed to facilitate the construction of the Ontario Line Queen Station. Consequently, the TTC 501 streetcar has been rerouted, diverting eastbound via Adelaide Street and westbound via Richmond Street, before reconnecting to Queen Street at Church Street and York Street.

The local Councillor office has received numerous public complaints about increased traffic congestion along the section of Church Street impacted by the streetcar diversion. To address these concerns, it is recommended to implement “No Stopping” traffic regulation on both the east and west sides of Church Street, between Queen Street East and Adelaide Street East. This measure aims to enhance traffic flow and reduce delays for both the transit and general traffic.

Currently, the east side of Church Street, between Queen Street East and Adelaide Street East, is regulated as “No Stopping” from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays), with “No Parking” regulation at all other times. Similarly, on the west side of Church Street, “No Stopping” is in effect from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays), with “No Parking” at all other times.

The proposed temporary traffic by-law change would extend the “No Stopping” regulation to all times on both sides of Church Street, between Queen Street East and Adelaide Street East, for the duration of the Ontario Line Queen Street construction. This modification is expected to increase road capacity, streamline traffic flow, and improve transit vehicle movement.

The Ward Councillor has been consulted and is aware of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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