

Temporary Street Closure of Bremner Boulevard for the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2025 Playoff Season

Date: March 12, 2025

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Permits and Enforcement, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 10 - Spadina-Fort York

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting approval to temporarily close Bremner Boulevard between Lake Shore Boulevard West and a point east of the parking garage accesses servicing 15 and 25 York Street respectively, from April 9, 2025 to June 25, 2025 to facilitate the Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area for the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2025 playoff season.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. Toronto and East York Community Council authorize the General Manager of Transportation Services to temporarily close Bremner Boulevard to vehicular traffic between Lake Shore Boulevard West and the east side of the parking garage accesses servicing 15 and 25 York Street respectively, from April 9, 2025 to June 25, 2025 or the date the last team is eliminated, to facilitate Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area during the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2025 playoff season and to amend the necessary traffic regulations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact to the City associated with the recommendations in this report.

The permit costs for the 2025 Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors playoff season viewing area total approximately \$60,000 if the road closure is maintained for the full duration being requested (April 9 to June 25, 2025). The event organizers will be responsible for the full costs associated with the 2025 Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors playoff season viewing area.

DECISION HISTORY

Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting of May 3, 2024, by adoption of TE12.70 authorized the General Manager, Transportation Services, to temporarily close Bremner Boulevard between Lake Shore Boulevard West to a point east of the parking garage accesses servicing 15 and 25 York Street respectively, from Tuesday, April 9, 2024, to Thursday, June 25, 2024, or the date the last team is eliminated, to facilitate Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area during the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2024 playoff season.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.TE12.70>

Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting of April 12, 2023, by adoption of TE4.43 authorized the General Manager, Transportation Services, to temporarily close Bremner Boulevard between Lake Shore Boulevard West to a point east of the parking garage accesses servicing 15 and 25 York Street respectively, from Tuesday, April 5, 2023 to Thursday, June 25, 2023 or the date the last team is eliminated, to facilitate Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area during the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2023 playoff season.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2023.TE4.43>

Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting of April 21, 2022, by adoption of TE32.22 authorized the General Manager, Transportation Services, to temporarily close Bremner Boulevard between Lake Shore Boulevard West to a point east of the parking garage accesses servicing 15 and 25 York Street respectively, from Wednesday April 6, 2022 to Wednesday, July 6, 2022 or the date the last team is eliminated, to facilitate Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area during the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2022 playoff season.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2022.TE32.22>

Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting of March 12, 2020, by adoption of TE14.68 authorized the General Manager, Transportation Services, to temporarily close Bremner Boulevard between Lake Shore Boulevard West to a point east of the parking garage accesses servicing 15 and 25 York Street respectively, from Sunday April 5, 2020 to Tuesday June 23, 2020 or the date the last team is eliminated, to facilitate Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area during the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2020 playoff season.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2020.TE14.68>

COMMENTS

The General Manager, Transportation Services requires approval to temporarily close to vehicular traffic any highway or portion of a highway beyond four consecutive days for social, recreational, community, athletic or cinematographic purposes. As this proposed closure exceeds four consecutive days, Toronto and East York Community Council approval is required.

Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment (MLSE) will be hosting viewing parties on Bremner Boulevard outside of Scotiabank Arena's Gate 6 during the 2025 Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors playoff season. MLSE has previously hosted viewing parties in this area for a number of years during home openers and playoff events. The requested temporary road closure is located on a portion of Bremner Boulevard from Lake Shore Boulevard West up to the side of the parking garages servicing the buildings at 15 and 25 York Street. The road closure area will be maintained for the full duration of the playoffs with barricades installed at either end. The viewing area consists of one large screen for viewing and other activations and programming, all located along the perimeter of this portion of Bremner Boulevard in order to maintain emergency access on the roadway.

The planned closure is scheduled to expire on June 25, 2025 or earlier pending the status of the playoff season, essentially reopening the roadway upon the completion of the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2025 playoff season.

In addition, MLSE plans to close the north half of Bremner Boulevard from the west of the parking garage at 15 and 25 York Street to York Street on viewing party days only. Access to the parking garages servicing the buildings at 15 and 25 York Street will be maintained at all times.

Transportation Services works with the event organizer to ensure all options have been explored to minimize the impact of the closure on all road users. City staff will continue to liaise internally and with area stakeholders as required, to ensure all of the traffic management measures for this event are carried out in a comprehensive manner. Upon completion of the event, Transportation Services staff, in consultation with the local Councillor, the event organizers, and other stakeholders, will evaluate the traffic management plan. Lessons learned will inform the design of traffic management plans for future street event closures.

A site plan is included in Attachment 1.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Antonia Markos
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Site Plan of Temporary Street Closure of Bremner Blvd for the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors Playoff Season

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