

Accessible Parking Spaces – Bellevue Avenue and Denison Square

Date: April 11, 2025

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 11, University-Rosedale

SUMMARY

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

The Ward Councillor, in consultation with The Kiever Synagogue, is requesting approval for two on-street accessible parking spaces in the vicinity of the synagogue. These installations are intended to replace off-street spaces lost through the redevelopment of the adjacent Toronto Parking Authority (TPA) lot on Bellevue Avenue, they are not intended to serve a specific applicant. Accordingly, they are not supported under Transportation Services' guidelines for the installation of accessible parking spaces.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council not designate an on-street accessible parking space in effect at all times on the west side of Bellevue Avenue, from a point 21 metres north of Denison Square to a point 5.5 metres further south.
2. Toronto and East York Community Council not designate an on-street accessible parking space in effect at all times on the north side of Denison Square, from a point 20 metres east of Bellevue Avenue to a point 5.5 metres further west.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendations in the report.

If Toronto and East York Community Council amends the recommendations in this report and authorizes the accessible parking spaces on Bellevue Avenue and Denison Square, the signage cost is approximately \$1,000.00. Funding is available within the Transportation Services 2025 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

This report addresses a new initiative.

COMMENTS

The Kiever Synagogue is located at 25 Bellevue Avenue, on the northeast corner of Bellevue Avenue and Denison Square. Off-street parking in this area was previously accessible through the adjacent TPA parking lot, located at 35 Bellevue Avenue. This parking facility provided off-street parking and accessible parking opportunities for the public visiting the area, as well as parking for the congregation attending synagogue.

This TPA parking facility is being replaced by a City of Toronto led proposal for a four-storey apartment building that will provide affordable and supportive housing. In this regard, the Ward Councillor, on behalf of The Kiever Synagogue, has requested consideration for on-street accessible parking spaces to be implemented in proximity to the synagogue. These on-street parking spaces are intended to provide suitable access to/from the synagogue for people with disabilities and for those who transport them.

To be eligible for consideration of an on-street accessible parking space, applicants must hold a valid Accessible Parking Permit, issued by the MTO. Staff have determined that the installation of accessible parking spaces is not feasible in this regard, as this program is request-based and is reserved exclusively for residents. However, in the City of Toronto, motorists that hold a valid Accessible Parking Permit do have certain parking exemptions that may yield convenient parking for members attending the synagogue.

Specifically, the City of Toronto has developed a listing of exemptions/provisions which are identified in the City of Toronto's Municipal Code, Chapter 903. An Accessible Parking Permit holder or driver (operating a vehicle for the purpose of transporting an Accessible Parking Permit holder) who displays a valid Accessible Parking Permit is entitled to the following exemptions:

- Signed prohibited parking areas (this includes time restricted areas only between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.). No exemptions exist during the rush hour periods between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., and between 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Signed on-street permit parking areas or streets. Vehicles displaying a valid Accessible Parking Permit are permitted to park without a designated on-street parking permit
- Signed parking limits such as one-hour and two-hour maximums; Accessible Parking Permit holders are allowed to exceed the signed maximum parking limit
- Unsigned maximum three-hour parking limit in effect on all city streets
- On-street parking meters, parking machines or mobile only zones without depositing a payment during the hours of legal operation

In the above situations where parking is permitted, motorists may not park in excess of 24 hours.

Given the parking exemptions/provisions mentioned above, an Accessible Parking Permit holder attending the synagogue can legally park on the following roadways in this area:

- On the north side of Denison Square, between Bellevue Avenue and Augusta Avenue
- On the west side of Bellevue Avenue, between Nassau Street and Wales Avenue
- On the south side of Wales Avenue, between Leonard Avenue and Augusta Avenue
- On the west side of Augusta Avenue, between Dundas Street West and Wales Avenue
- On the east side of Augusta Avenue, between Wales Avenue and Denison Square
- On the west side of Augusta Avenue, north of Denison Square
- On the north side of Nassau Street, between Leonard Avenue and Augusta Avenue

Given that Transportation Services guidelines are not met, as well as the potential on-street exemptions for accessible permit holders that are available in the Kensington area, as well as other paid parking lots, Transportation Services do not support replacing the off-street spaces with on-street spaces.

Notwithstanding, Transportation Services identified areas on Bellevue Avenue and on Denison Square where accessible parking spaces could be installed with minimal impacts to residents and the road operations. The details of these two streets are as follows:

Bellevue Avenue, between Denison Square and Nassau Street, operates one-way southbound, is classified as a local road, accommodates a contra-flow bike lane on the east side. The parking regulations within the subject section are as follows:

East side

- No stopping, anytime

West side

- Permit parking operates from 12:01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., daily
- One-hour parking from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday
- Parking is allowed for a maximum period of three hours at other times

Denison Square, between Bellevue Avenue and Augusta Avenue, operates one-way westbound and is classified as a local road. The parking regulations within the subject section are as follows:

South side

- No parking, anytime

North side

- Permit parking operates from 12:01 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., daily
- Parking is allowed for a maximum period of three hours at other times

Should Toronto and East York Community Council amend Transportation Services' recommendations, the potential accessible parking space locations identified on the two above-noted roadway sections will meet the Ward Councillor's requirements.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE



for

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