

Strathcona Avenue - Temporary Traffic and Parking By-law Amendments

Date: June 19, 2025

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Deputy General Manager, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 14, Toronto-Danforth

SUMMARY

The Toronto District School Board has approved the temporary relocation of Pape Avenue Junior Public School and Pape Children's House childcare centre from 220 Langley Avenue to the Adult Learning Centre located at 540 Jones Avenue. This relocation is required to preserve a stable learning environment during major Ontario Line construction activities occurring in close proximity to the existing school site. The temporary relocation will be in effect for two academic years, from September 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027.

To support safe and efficient student pick-up and drop-off operations at the new location, this report recommends temporary amendments to traffic and parking by-law regulations on Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street, including the designation of a short-term pick-up and drop-off zone, adjustments to overnight permit parking, and the implementation of stopping prohibitions to improve safety and circulation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Deputy General Manager, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council rescind the existing parking prohibition in effect at all times on the north side of Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street, from September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, inclusive.
2. Toronto and East York Community Council authorize parking for a maximum period of 10 minutes from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the north side of Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street, from September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, inclusive.
3. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit parking from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m. of one day to 7:30 a.m. of the next following day, Monday to Friday, and any time Saturday and Sunday, on the north side of

Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street, from September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, inclusive.

4. Toronto and East York Community Council prohibit stopping at all times on the south side of Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street, from September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, inclusive.

5. Toronto and East York Community Council rescind the existing parking prohibition in effect at all times on the south side of Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street, from September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, inclusive.

6. Toronto and East York Community Council rescind the existing permit parking regulation in effect from 12.01 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., daily on the odd (south) side of Strathcona Avenue, from Blake Street to Jones Avenue, from September 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027, inclusive.

7. Toronto and East York Community Council authorize the appropriate City officials to submit directly to the Council at the appropriate time any necessary bills to amend the appropriate City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapters, and any Schedules to the Chapters, to reinstate the traffic and parking regulations to what they were implemented prior to the by-law amendments.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no significant financial impact associated with the recommendations in this report. The cost of signage installation and any pavement markings will be absorbed within the Transportation Services Division's 2025 Operating Budget.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council at its meeting on May 22 and 23, 2024, received Item EX14.2 titled "Ontario Line Pape Segment Advanced Works - Temporary Road Closures and Transportation Impacts". The staff report under Item EX14.2 provided an overview of Metrolinx's construction for the Pape Segment advanced work, including the work within the proximity to the Pape Junior Public School at Pape and Riverdale and their traffic impacts.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.EX14.2>

COMMENTS

Metrolinx is advancing construction of the Ontario Line subway, including major works such as utility relocation, tunnelling, and station construction near Pape Avenue Junior Public School and Pape Children's House childcare centre located at 220 Langley Avenue. These activities will continue to impact the school site and adjacent roadways for an extended period.

Following coordination between Metrolinx, Toronto District School Board (TDSB), and other stakeholders, the TDSB has approved the temporary relocation of both the Pape Avenue Junior Public School and the Pape Children's House childcare centre to the Adult Learning Centre building at 540 Jones Avenue, located at northwest corner of Jones Avenue and Strathcona Avenue. The relocation site is located approximately one kilometre east of the existing location, or a 15 to 20-minute walk. The relocation site will remain in effect for two academic years, from September 1, 2025 to June 30, 2027, to ensure the safety of students and staff and minimizing disruption to educational programming. Figure 1 shows the location of Pape Avenue Junior Public School and the Adult Learning Centre with respect to the Ontario Line alignment.

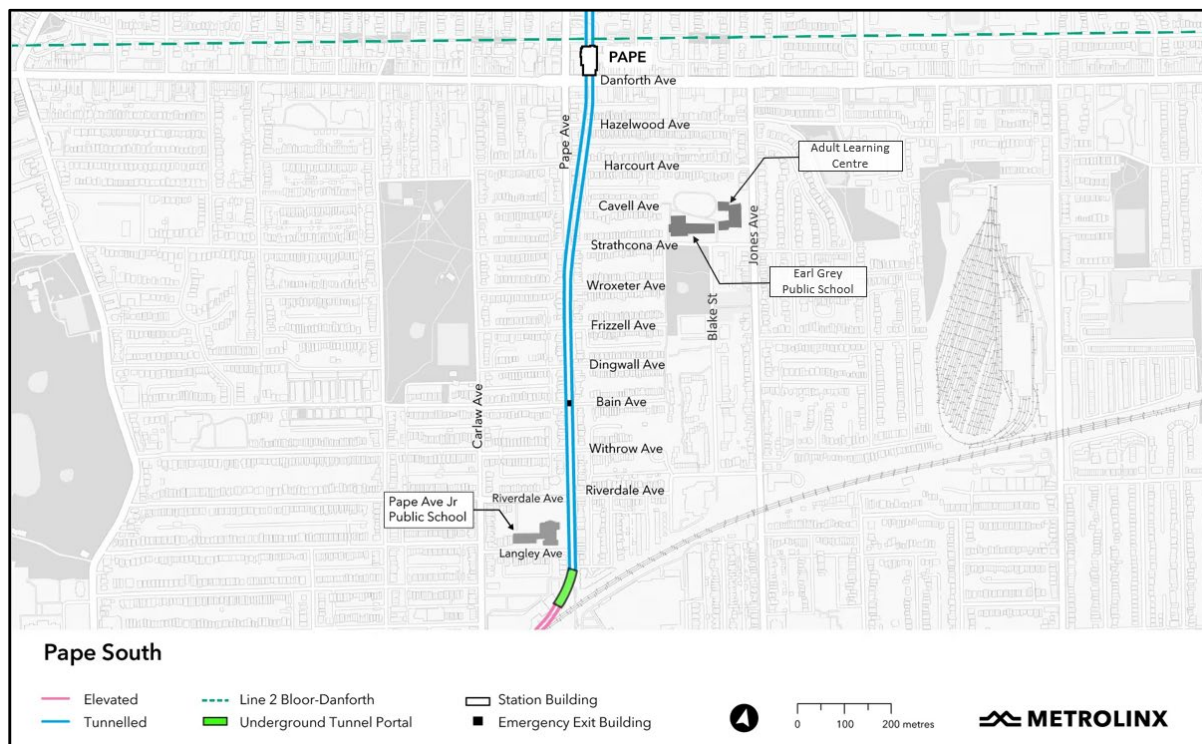


Figure 1 – Pape Avenue Junior Public School Relocation

Source: Metrolinx

Pape Avenue Junior Public School currently accommodates approximately 260 students and 20 staff, while the Pape Children's House childcare centre serves approximately 150 children with 30 staff. Given the distance to the new location and recognizing that many of the students and childcare centre attendees are younger children who require parental accompaniment, it is anticipated that a significant portion of families who previously walked will now rely on private vehicles and school transportation buses for pick-up and drop-off. As a result, a significant increase in both vehicle-based and school bus-based pick-up and drop-off activity is expected at the new relocation site.

Although a 32-space on-site parking lot is available at 540 Jones Avenue, this facility is expected to primarily serve school and daycare staff. Given the limited size of the lot and circulation constraints, accommodating general pick-up and drop-off activity within the lot may lead to vehicular queuing at the lot access, potentially resulting in localized impacts on Jones Avenue traffic, including TTC bus, cycle lane operations, and Ontario

Line construction-related haul routes. As such, directing general pick-up and drop-off activity to Strathcona Avenue is considered more suitable approach to help manage traffic operations and minimize potential conflicts along Jones Avenue.

In order to safely accommodate the general pick-up and drop-off activity, it is recommended to designate the north side of Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street, as the primary pick-up and drop-off zone for students attending the relocated facilities. This segment of Strathcona Avenue is well-suited for this purpose due to its road configuration and circulation pattern.

Strathcona Avenue operates as a two-way street between Jones Avenue and Blake Street. West of Blake Street, Strathcona Avenue transitions to a one-way westbound configuration towards Pape Avenue, which facilitates efficient circulation for vehicles exiting the area after drop-off or pick-up. The one-way segment also helps reduce any conflicts with oncoming traffic, improving safety and traffic flow during peak school periods.

To support this plan, the existing “No Parking” regulation on the north side of Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street, will be temporarily amended to allow short-term (maximum 10-minute) on-street parking during key school and daycare periods. Specifically, short-term parking will be permitted from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday to Friday. Outside of these designated times, parking restriction will remain in place to preserve safety and traffic operations.

To further support safe loading and unloading operations for families with younger children, it is recommended that the existing overnight permit parking on the south side of Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street be temporarily removed and replaced with a “No Stopping” at all time regulation. This change will prevent any potential obstructions to two-way traffic operations, improve sightlines, and enhance vehicle maneuverability along this section of the street. The proposed changes will not impact existing shared lane marking (sharrows) on Strathcona Avenue.

Approximately nine existing overnight permit parking spaces will be temporarily displaced by this adjustment. However, these spaces can be readily accommodated within the same permit parking area (Area 8B), specifically on Strathcona Avenue, between Blake Street and Pape Avenue, and Blake Street, between Strathcona Avenue and Boulton Avenue. Both locations are within reasonable walking distance. Additionally, Permit Parking area 8B currently operates at approximately 84 percent capacity, with sufficient residual capacity available to absorb the relocation of these spaces. Figure 2 shows the recommended temporary traffic and parking by-law amendments along Strathcona Avenue, between Jones Avenue and Blake Street.

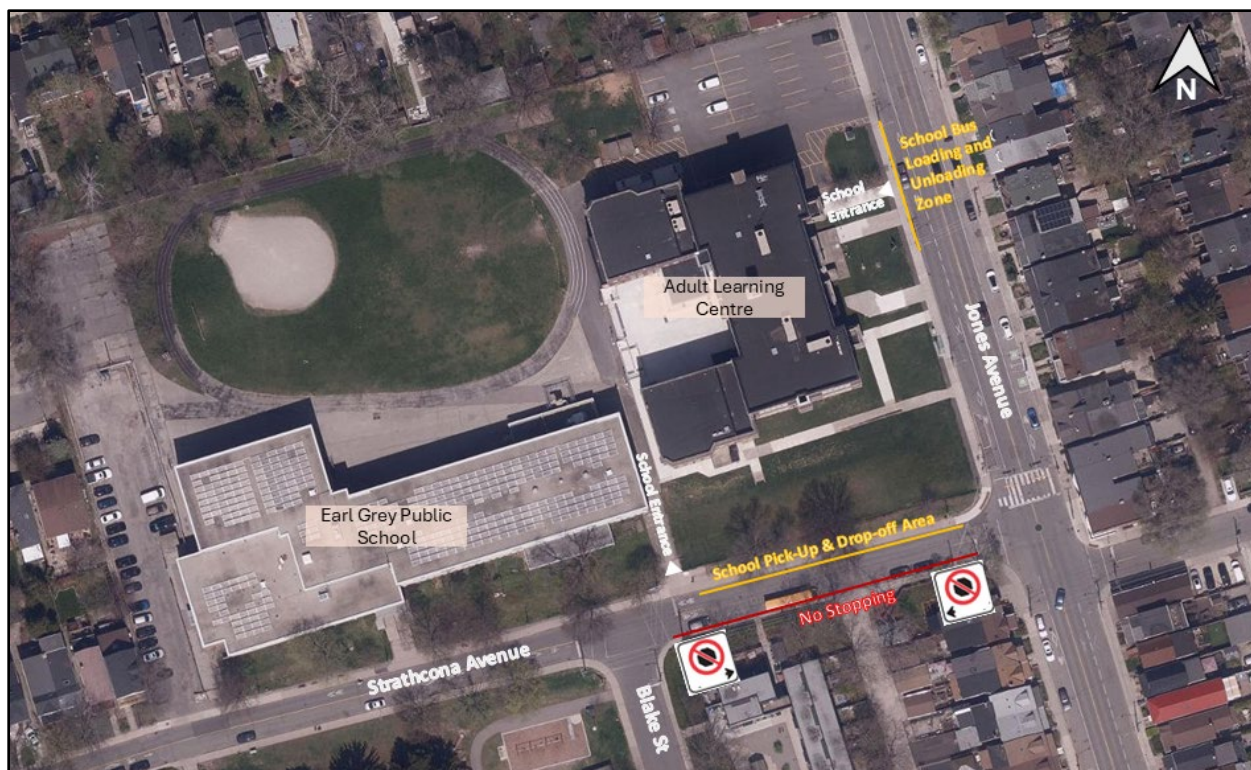


Figure 2 – Temporary Traffic and Parking By-law Amendments

Source: Google Maps

In parallel with this work, a temporary school bus loading zone is also recommended along the west side of Jones Avenue abutting the frontage of 540 Jones Avenue. This zone will accommodate school buses transporting students to and from the relocated facilities. As Jones Avenue is served by TTC bus routes, this recommended temporary school bus loading requires City Council approval and will be addressed through a separate staff report. The intent is to separate general parent pick-up and drop-off activity on Strathcona Avenue from school bus operations on Jones Avenue to maintain safe, efficient circulation and minimize conflicts in the area.

To further enhance pedestrian safety, particularly for younger children, school crossing guards will be assigned at the intersection of Blake Street and Strathcona Avenue. It should be noted that a crossing guard is already deployed during the school peak hours at the intersection of Strathcona Avenue and Jones Avenue pedestrian crossing.

City staff will continue to monitor the effectiveness of the pick-up and drop-off zone once the school and childcare centre are operational at the new location. Additional operational changes may be recommended, as necessary, in consultation with TDSB, school administration, and the local Councillor. The recommended temporary traffic and parking by-law amendments are intended to address increased vehicle activity expected during the relocation period, while minimizing impacts on traffic operations in the neighbourhood.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS
