

Improving the Speed and Reliability of the 7 Bathurst

Date: September 2, 2025

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Planning, Design, and Management, Transportation Services

Wards: 11 - University-Rosedale, 12 - Toronto St. Paul's

SUMMARY

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

The focus of this report is Bathurst Street, from Eglinton Avenue West to Bathurst Station North Exit. The recommended changes, which consist of extensions to No Stopping restrictions on the east side of Bathurst Street in the afternoon and weekend, as well as changes to some No Left-Turn restrictions, are intended to clear parking in the curb lane and prohibit turning vehicles from blocking buses and general traffic at intersections, for periods where the 7 Bathurst service is significantly impacted by congestion. An analysis of the TTC's 7 Bathurst operations supports the recommendations in this report.

The proposed extended traffic regulations are intended to improve the reliability of the afternoon bus route and reduce traffic congestion in the afternoon outside of peak hours. Conditions will be monitored following implementation, to determine whether the changes have the intended effect, and whether any further adjustments are required.

In addition, the TTC is currently undertaking a Bunching and Gapping study to improve the service reliability of select TTC routes, including the 7 Bathurst. The study focuses on shifting route management from an emphasis on departures at end terminals to a more customer-oriented approach, recognizing that customers depend on vehicles arriving at regularly spaced intervals, and not a schedule. Additional recommendations for the 7 Bathurst are expected to come from the TTC's Bunching and Gapping study, once the study concludes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Planning, Design and Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council prohibit stopping on the east side of Bathurst Street between Eglinton Avenue West and Bathurst Station North Exit from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday and from 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday to Sunday, except public holidays.
2. City Council prohibit northbound left-turns, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday, except public holidays (Toronto Transit Commission vehicles excepted), at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Davenport Road.
3. City Council prohibit southbound left-turns, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday, except public holidays (Toronto Transit Commission vehicles excepted), at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Dupont Street.
4. City Council rescind the existing northbound left-turn restriction, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, at the intersection of Bathurst Street and Dupont Street.
5. City Council enact the following amendments to traffic and parking regulations associated with Recommendations 1-4 and as generally described in Attachment 1 - Amendments to Traffic and Parking Regulations to the report (September 18, 2025) from the Director, Planning, Design and Management, Transportation Services.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The estimated capital funding required to implement traffic and parking changes on Bathurst Street, outlined in this report, is expected to be \$30,000 and is funded as part of the TTC's 2025-2034 Capital Budget and Plan.

Transportation Services has consulted with the Toronto Parking Authority (TPA), who assessed that the financial impact of lost revenue at approximately \$14,000 annual and a one-time operating expense of \$2,000 to implement the changes to the proposed on-street parking hours on Bathurst Street.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

On July 23-24, 2025, City Council adopted RapidTO: Transit Priority on Dufferin Street and Bathurst Street. City Council requested the General Manager, Transportation Services, to report to the September 18, 2025, meeting of the Toronto and East York Community Council in collaboration with the Toronto Transit Commission, with recommendations to improve bus service reliability and speed on Bathurst Street in alignment with the 7 Bathurst Bus Bunching Pilot.

[Agenda Item History - 2025.EX25.4](#)

On July 23-24, 2025, City Council adopted Speeding up Transit in Ward 11. City Council requested the General Manager, Transportation Services, to report to the September 18, 2025, meeting of the Toronto and East York Community Council with recommendations for local traffic changes in Ward 11, such as times and locations for parking, loading and left turns, that would make the afternoon northbound Bathurst bus more rapid and reliable.

[Agenda Item History - 2025.MM32.6](#)

On May 14, 2025, the TTC Board adopted as amended Transit Priority Measures on Dufferin Street and Bathurst Street. The TTC Board endorsed the proposed installation of priority bus lanes on Bathurst Street between Eglinton Avenue West and Bathurst Station.

[Agenda Item History - 2025.TTC4.4](#)

On February 24, 2025, the TTC Board adopted An Urgent Need to Improve Bus and Streetcar Travel Time and Reliability. The TTC Board adopted a motion requesting a report on how transit travel times and reliability are prioritized in roadway design, decision-making, and operations. The motion also requests that staff evaluate the impact of dedicating scarce arterial road infrastructure to vehicles that are not moving and calls for the accelerated implementation of RapidTO on priority corridors.

[Agenda Item History - 2025.TTC2.13](#)

COMMENTS

Transportation Services was directed by City Council to report to the September 18, 2025 meeting of Toronto and East York Community Council with solutions to improve bus service and reliability in relation to the 7 Bathurst. The project limits are Bathurst Street, between Eglinton Avenue West and Bloor Street West, as shown in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Project Limits on Bathurst Street

Existing Road Conditions

Between Eglinton Avenue West to the north and Bathurst Station to the south, Bathurst Street is a four-lane arterial roadway with a posted speed limit of 40 km/h. Generally, the southbound curb lane is designated as a no-stopping zone from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, while the northbound curb lane is designated as a no-stopping zone from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. or 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, depending on the segment. On-street parking, either unsigned or in Green P paid parking spaces, is available at various locations throughout the corridor. The average vehicle volume is 30,000 per day, between Eglinton Avenue West and Davenport Road, and 20,000 per day between Dupont Street and Bloor Street West.

Existing Transit Conditions

North of Bathurst Station, the 7 Bathurst serves over 20,000 transit customers every weekday, with between 61% and 70% of buses arriving on time throughout the day on weekdays. On weekends, the percentage of buses arriving on time ranges from 35% to 78%. Additionally, during the weekday morning and afternoon peak periods, the average speed is only 13 km/h and the commute time is 80% longer than it would be by driving the same distance. Outside of the peak periods, buses are forced to merge around parked vehicles adding to the delay experienced by transit riders.

The 7 Bathurst serves as a vital connector to Line 1 Yonge-University at St. Clair West Station, Line 2 Bloor at Bathurst Station, and the future Line 5 Eglinton at Forest Hill Station, intersecting essential east-west surface transit routes and providing access to a blend of residential, commercial, institutional, parks, and other land uses.

Transit travel times, by segment, direction, and day of the week, are provided in Attachment 2. The data indicates that buses experience greater travel time variability in the northbound direction during the weekday afternoon period (between 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.) and during the weekend afternoon period (between 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.). Ridership along the 7 Bathurst is consistently high, with peak ridership occurring during the Saturday and Sunday afternoon periods, with further details provided in Attachment 2.

In addition, the TTC is currently undertaking a Bunching and Gapping study to improve the service reliability of select TTC routes, including the 7 Bathurst. The study focuses on shifting route management from an emphasis on departures at end terminals to a more customer-oriented approach, recognizing that customers depend on vehicles arriving at regularly spaced intervals, and not a schedule.

Staff also consulted with bus operators and route supervisors. Their frontline experience provided valuable insights that, along with the traffic analysis and public consultation done through the RapidTO: Bathurst study, informed the proposed recommendations. Specific feedback from operators, for the section of Bathurst Street between Bathurst Station and Eglinton Avenue West, included: morning and afternoon rush hours experience the most issues and delays, intersections that often have the most backlog are Davenport Road and St. Clair Avenue West, and drivers often need to merge around parked vehicles in the areas around Dupont Street, St. Clair Avenue West, and Eglinton Avenue West.

Recommended Changes

The following changes are proposed to improve the 7 Bathurst from Eglinton Avenue West to Bathurst Station. The specific traffic and parking changes are detailed in Attachment 1:

- Change existing turn restriction hours at the following intersections on Bathurst Street (refer to Figure 2). Transportation Services and the TTC recommend extending hours of existing turn restrictions, balancing operations and local access:
 - Extended left-turn prohibition on Bathurst Street northbound at Davenport Road from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday;
 - Extended left-turn prohibition on Bathurst Street southbound at Dupont Street from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday to Saturday; and
 - Remove left-turn prohibition on Bathurst Street northbound at Dupont Street from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
- Changes to curbside no-stopping restrictions on Bathurst Street, east side, from Eglinton Avenue West to Bathurst Station North Exit to 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday to Friday and 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Saturday to Sunday; and
- Changes to signal timing to reduce queuing at intersections where the 7 Bathurst experiences delays from Eglinton Avenue West to Bathurst Station

Every signalized intersection was analyzed with attention to the following considerations to understand the benefits and impacts:

- High volumes of pedestrians and people cycling;
- Intersecting streets with subway or streetcar lines;
- Known safety issues and collision history;
- Constrained locations;
- Alternative routes; and
- Turn volumes.

Restrictions on left-turns at St. Clair Avenue West are not recommended due to the presence of left-turn lanes in all directions. Safety issues could arise with vehicles unknowingly entering the left-turn lane at prohibited times. Instead, signals will be re-timed to reduce queuing without impacting the 512 Streetcar service.

The changes to curb lane use are based on an analysis of the 7 Bathurst travel time, travel time variability and peak service hours. Figure 3 and Figure 4 show examples of the average travel times of the northbound 7 Bathurst during weekdays and weekends, respectively, highlighting that the proposed extended No Stopping periods match times where the 7 Bathurst bus is experiencing the greatest increase in travel time. Prioritizing the northbound curb lane for travel in the afternoon is expected to reduce travel time delays for all vehicles during these times, not strictly the buses.

While these changes do not immediately impact TTC's service planning and scheduling, they are intended to improve the consistency of travel times and allow for subsequent schedule adjustments by the TTC.

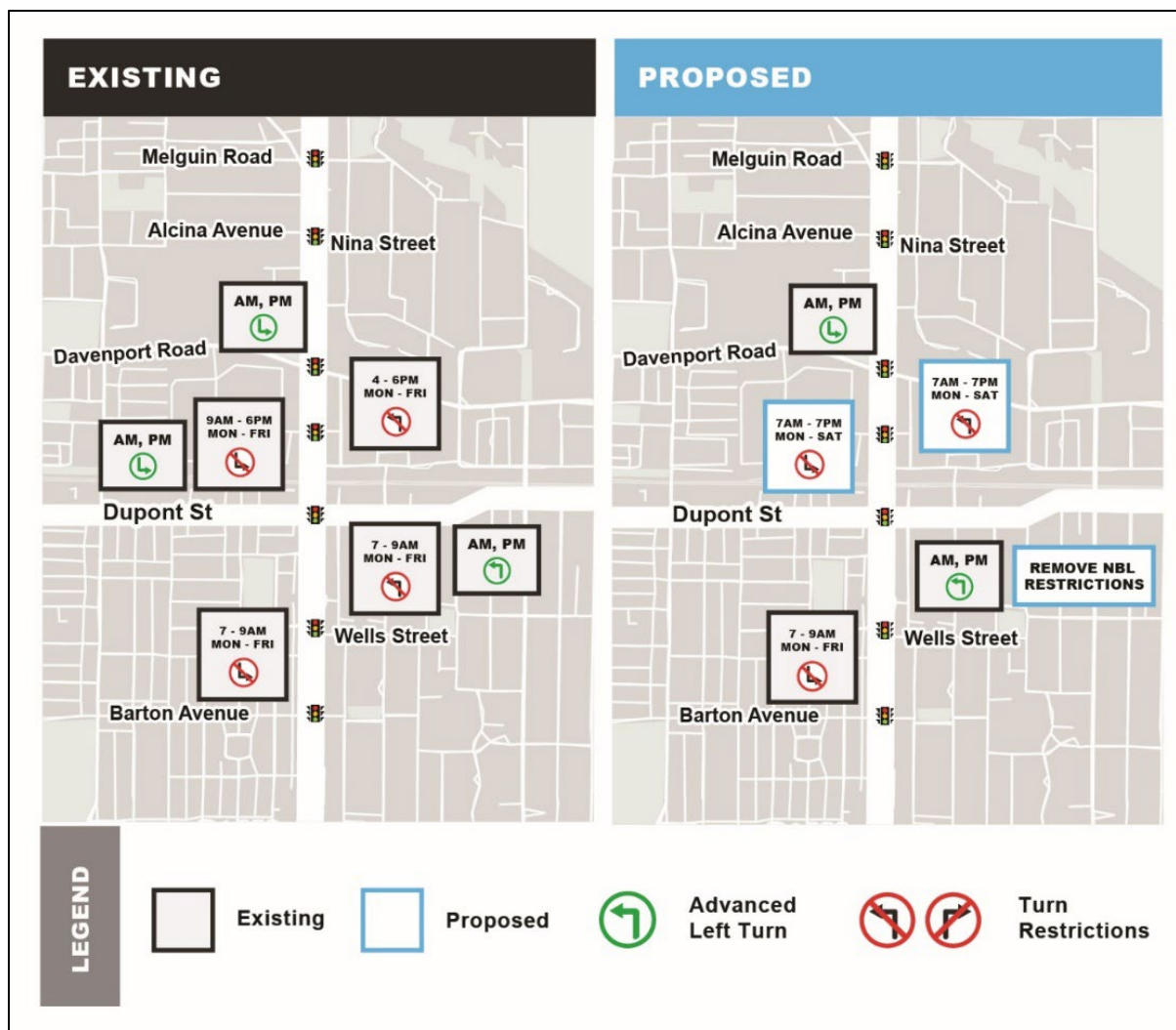


Figure 2. Proposed Turn Restrictions Diagram

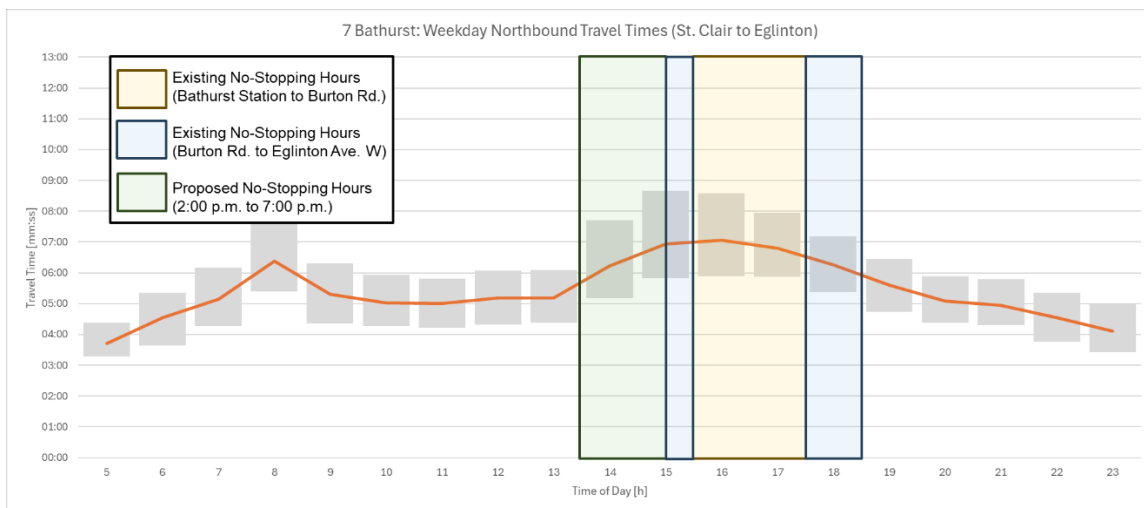


Figure 3: 7 Bathurst - Sample Weekday Travel Time and No-Stopping Changes

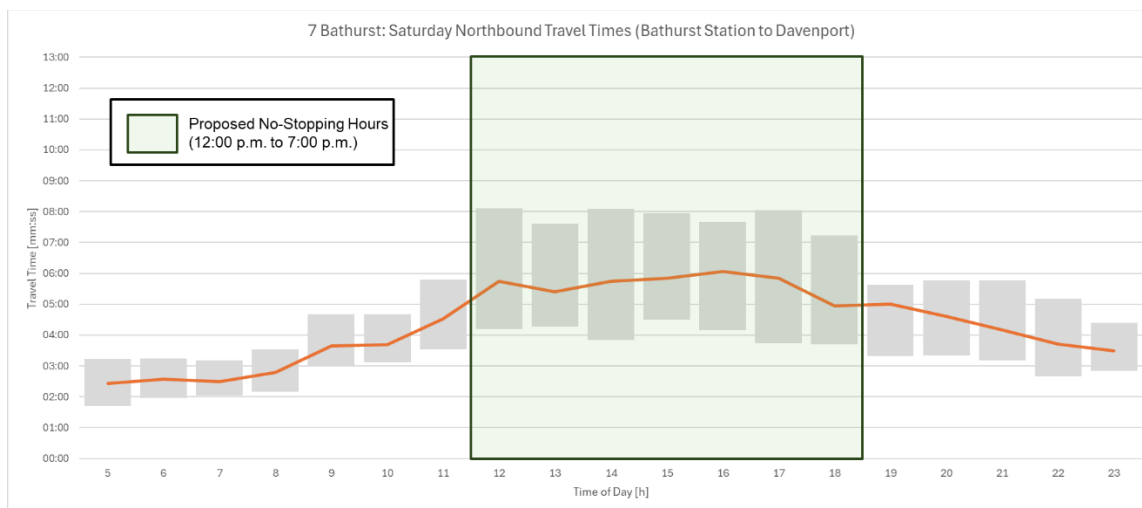


Figure 4: 7 Bathurst - Sample Weekend Travel Time and No-Stopping Changes

Next Steps

The changes proposed in this report are expected to improve the afternoon service and reliability on the 7 Bathurst, as well as benefit general traffic flow at key intersections. In accordance with City Council direction on RapidTO: Bathurst ([2025.EX25.4](#)), Transportation Services will recommend next steps for RapidTO: Bathurst Street at the appropriate time after the FIFA World Cup 2026.

Separate from the RapidTO: Bathurst study, staff had been assessing the potential benefits of installing a traffic signal at the Bathurst Station north exit to help reduce delays. However, with the recent approval of RapidTO: Bathurst and the planned installation of a dedicated southbound transit lane, this work has been paused. The new transit lane is expected to address the same delay issues. Once implemented, staff will monitor conditions to determine whether a traffic signal is still necessary.

The local councillors have been advised of the recommendations in this report.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Amendments to Traffic and Parking Regulations
Attachment 2: 7 Bathurst Travel Time Data

**Attachment 1: Amendments to Traffic and Parking Regulations
TO BE RESCINDED**

Chapter 910 Schedule I: Parking Machines

| Highway | Side Parking | Between | Hours (daily as indicated below) | Fee/time Limit | Maximum Parking Period |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bathurst Street | Both | Follis Avenue and Dupont Street | 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mon. to Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sat.; 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sun. | \$3.00 for 1 hour | 3 hours |
| Bathurst Street | Both | London Street and Follis Avenue | 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mon. to Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sat.; 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sun. | \$3.00 for 1 hour | 3 hours |

Chapter 950 Schedule XIII: No Parking

| Highway | Side | Between | Prohibited Times and/or Days |
|-----------------|-------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Bathurst Street | East | A point 29 metres south of Rosemary Lane and Rosemary Lane | Anytime |
| Bathurst Street | East | Bridgman Avenue and a point 61.5 metres north of St. Clair Avenue West | Anytime |
| Bathurst Street | East | Lonsdale Road and Heathdale Road | 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. |
| Bathurst Street | East | St. Clair Avenue West and Lonsdale Road | Anytime |

Chapter 950 Schedule XIV: No Stopping

| Highway | Side | Between | Prohibited Times and/or Days |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Bathurst Street | East | Burton Road and Rosemary Lane | 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri., except public holidays |
| Bathurst Street | East | Dundas Street West and Burton Road | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri., except public holidays |

Chapter 950 Schedule XV: Parking for Restricted Periods

| Highway | Side | Between | Times and/or Days | Maximum Period Permitted |
|------------------------|-------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
| Bathurst Street | Both | Follis Avenue and Dupont Street | 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sat., except public holidays | 2 hours |
| Bathurst Street | East | Bridgman Avenue and a point 30.5 metres north of London Street | 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri. | 1 hour |
| Bathurst Street | East | Dewbourne Avenue and Rosemary Lane | 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Sat. | 2 hours |

Chapter 950 Schedule XXIII: Prohibited Turns

| Intersection of Portion of Highway | Direction | Turns Prohibited | Times and/or Days |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bathurst Street and Davenport Road | Northbound | Left | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri. |

| Intersection of Portion of Highway | Direction | Turns Prohibited | Times and/or Days |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Bathurst Street and Dupont Street | Northbound | Left | 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m., Mon. to Fri. |
| Bathurst Street and Dupont Street | Southbound | Left | 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri. |

TO BE ENACTED

Chapter 910 Schedule I: Parking Machines

| Highway | Side Parking | Between | Hours (daily as indicated below) | Fee/time Limit | Maximum Parking Period |
|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bathurst Street | West | Follis Avenue and Dupont Street | 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mon. to Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sat.; 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sun. | \$3.00 for 1 hour | 3 hours |
| Bathurst Street | East | Follis Avenue and Dupont Street | 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mon. to Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sat.; 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sun. | \$3.00 for 1 hour | 3 hours |
| Bathurst Street | West | London Street and Follis Avenue | 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mon. to Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sat.; 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sun. | \$3.00 for 1 hour | 3 hours |

| Highway | Side Parking | Between | Hours (daily as indicated below) | Fee/time Limit | Maximum Parking Period |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|---|-------------------|------------------------|
| Bathurst Street | East | London Street and Follis Avenue | 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mon. to Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sat.; 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sun. | \$3.00 for 1 hour | 3 hours |

Chapter 950 Schedule XIII: No Parking

| Highway | Side | Between | Prohibited Times and/or Days |
|-----------------|------|--|--|
| Bathurst Street | East | A point 29 metres south of Rosemary Lane and Rosemary Lane | Anytime except 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sat. to Sun. |
| Bathurst Street | East | Bridgman Avenue and a point 61.5 metres north of St. Clair Avenue West | Anytime except 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sat. to Sun. |
| Bathurst Street | East | Lonsdale Road and Heathdale Road | Anytime except 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sat. to Sun. |
| Bathurst Street | East | St. Clair Avenue West and Lonsdale Road | Anytime except 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sat. to Sun. |

Chapter 950 Schedule XIV: No Stopping

| Highway | Side | Between | Prohibited Times and/or Days |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Bathurst Street | East | London Street and Rosemary Lane | 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri.; 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sat. to Sun. |
| Bathurst Street | East | London Street and Dundas Street West | 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon. to Fri., except public holidays |

Chapter 950 Schedule XXIII: Prohibited Turns

| Intersection of Portion of Highway | Direction | Turns Prohibited | Times and/or Days |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Bathurst Street and Davenport Road | Northbound | Left | 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mon. to Sat., except public holidays (TTC vehicles excepted) |
| Bathurst Street and Dupont Street | Southbound | Left | 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Mon. to Sat., except public holidays (TTC vehicles excepted) |