

On-Street Parking Review - Adelaide Street East, Lombard Street and Church Street

Date: October 3, 2025

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Enforcement and Street Management, Transportation Services

Wards: Ward 13, Toronto Centre

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 requested Transportation Services to investigate the feasibility of providing free parking on sections of Adelaide Street East, Lombard Street and Church Street adjacent to the Masjid Toronto Mosque on Adelaide Street East during the Friday afternoon periods. This report provides information that these requests are not supported, as there are currently no policies in place for these exemptions.

As part of the Strategic Parking Framework for the City of Toronto adopted by City Council on June 25 and 26, 2025, recommendations were approved providing direction for the Toronto Police Service and Toronto Parking Authority to develop policies for permitting parking near religious institutions and extending free parking at other times of religious significance, respectively. Transportation Services have confirmed that the work on these policies is in progress and that any changes in the absence of this guidance would be premature and should not be supported.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Enforcement and Street Management, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. Toronto and East York Community Council receive this report for information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial impacts resulting from the adoption of the recommendation in this report.

DECISION HISTORY

On June 25 and 26, 2025 City Council adopted Item IE22.2 (A Strategic Parking Framework for the City of Toronto). This report provided an overview and recommended a Strategic Parking Framework for the City of Toronto, consisting of an interconnected set of policy directions and a program of actions to ensure that the City can effectively manage the complexity of the parking system now and into the future as Toronto grows, develops and evolves. As part of the approval of this item, City Council requested:

- The Toronto Police Service Board establish a consistent policy that provides a grace period on religious holidays for vehicles parking near relevant religious institutions during and around religious services.
- The Toronto Parking Authority board to request the President, Toronto Parking Authority, in consultation with the Director, Equity and Human Rights, to report in the first quarter of 2026 on the feasibility of extending free parking at other times of religious significance in addition to Sunday mornings.

The City Council decision can be found at:

[Agenda Item History - 2025.IE22.2](#)

On May 10, 11, and 12, 2023 City Council adopted Item 2023.TE4.55 (On Street Parking Review - Parliament Street) regarding providing free parking at several locations on Parliament Street adjacent to mosques. The City Council decision can be found at:

[Agenda Item History - 2023.TE4.55](#)

On April 6 and 7, 2022, City Council adopted Item 2022.IE28.8 - Developing a Parking Strategy for Toronto and requested Transportation Services to include in the development of the Parking Strategy a review of the impact to City revenues when on-street parking spaces are displaced due to other uses, and to include a proposed approach to maximizing those revenues post-COVID recovery. The City Council decision can be found at:

[Agenda Item History - 2022.IE28.8](#)

COMMENTS

The Ward Councillor requested Transportation Services to investigate the feasibility of providing free parking, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Friday at the following locations to benefit the Masjid Toronto Mosque located on Adelaide Street East:

- Adelaide Street East, between Church Street and Jarvis Street
- Lombard Street, between Victoria Street and Jarvis Street
- Church Street, between Adelaide Street East and King Street East

Existing Conditions

The Masjid Toronto Mosque is located on Adelaide Street East, between Church Street and Jarvis Street. This mosque serves a large and diverse Muslim community, including students, professionals, and travelers. Many worshippers visit the mosque each week to perform the five daily prayers and the congregational Friday prayer. The mosque also hosts community events, a weekend children's school, and various classes.

The three subject street sections are described in more detail below.

Adelaide Street East

Adelaide Street East, between Church Street and Jarvis Street, is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a three-lane, east-west, major arterial roadway
- It operates one-way eastbound traffic on a pavement width of approximately 13.5 metres
- There is a bike lane located on the north side of the road
- The daily one-way traffic volume is approximately 13,000 vehicles
- The speed limit is 40 km/h
- Heavy trucks are permitted at all times
- There is no Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) service provided
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

The parking regulations on Adelaide Street East, within the subject section are as follows:

North side

- No stopping anytime

South side

- No parking anytime, between a point 49.5 metres west of Jarvis Street and a point 12.5 metres further west

- No stopping anytime, from Jarvis Street to a point 49.5 metres west, from a point 62 metres west of Jarvis Street to a point 33 metres further west, and from Church Street to a point 37 metres east
- Parking machines, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday, and from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, between a point 37 metres east of Church Street and a point 95 metres west of Jarvis Street
- Maximum three-hour statutory parking at all other times, where permitted

Lombard Street

Lombard Street, between Victoria Street and Jarvis Street, is characterized by the following conditions:

- It is a two-lane, east-west, collector roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 11 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 1,300 vehicles
- The speed limit is 30 km/h
- Heavy trucks are permitted at all times
- There is no TTC service provided
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

Currently, there is an ongoing construction staging area on Lombard Street that is located at the northwest corner of Lombard Street and Church Street. The current parking regulations on Lombard Street, within the subject section are as follows:

North side

- Commercial loading zone anytime, between a point 24.1 metres east of Victoria Street and a point 6 metres further east
- Passenger loading zone anytime, between a point 116 metres east of Victoria Street and a point 17 metres further east
- No parking anytime, from a point 133 metres east of Victoria Street to a point 13 metres further east, from Church Street to a point 33 metres east, and from a point 74 metres east of Church Street to a point 21 metres further east
- Stands for Taxicabs anytime, between a point 46.5 metres west of Jarvis Street and a point 6 metres further west
- Parking machines, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday, and from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, within other sections of the road
- Maximum three-hour statutory parking at all other times, where permitted

South side

- No standing anytime, between Victoria Street and a point 20 metres east
- Motorcycle parking zone, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday, and from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, from April 1 to October 31, inclusive, between a point 20 metres east of Victoria Street and a point 22 metres further east
- No stopping anytime, between Church Street and a point 47.3 metres west
- No standing anytime, between Church Street and a point 40 metres east

- No parking anytime, from a point 79 metres east of Church Street to a point 16 metres further east, and from a point 148 metres east of Church Street and a point 23 metres further east
- Maximum 20 minutes delivery zone, between a point 8 metres west of Jarvis Street and a point 20 metres further west
- Parking machines, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday, and from 1:00 p.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday, within other sections of the road
- Maximum three-hour statutory parking at all other times, where permitted

Church Street

Church Street, between Adelaide Street East and King Street East, is characterized as the following conditions:

- It is a four-lane, north-south, minor arterial roadway
- It operates two-way traffic on a pavement width of approximately 12.7 metres
- The daily two-way traffic volume is approximately 6,500 vehicles
- The speed limit is 30 km/h
- Heavy trucks are permitted at all times
- There is no TTC service provided
- There are sidewalks located on both sides of the street

The parking regulations on Church Street, within the subject section are as follows:

East side

- No parking, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., Monday to Friday
- No stopping, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday
- Parking machines, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday, and from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Sunday, between King Street East and a point 41.5 metres south of Adelaide Street East
- Accessible loading zone, outside the rush hour parking and stopping prohibitions, between a point 30.5 metres south of Adelaide Street East and a point 11 metres further south
- Maximum three-hour statutory parking at all other times, where permitted

West side

- No stopping, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday to Friday
- Parking machines, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday, and from 1:00 p.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday
- Maximum three-hour statutory parking at all other times, where permitted

Requested Changes

The Ward Councillor requested that Transportation Services investigate the feasibility of changing the existing on-street parking regulations on the following roads, to ensure that parking is free from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., Friday for those attending the Masjid Toronto Mosque located on Adelaide Street East:

- Adelaide Street East, between Church Street and Jarvis Street
- Lombard Street, between Victoria Street and Jarvis Street
- Church Street, between Adelaide Street East and King Street East

This on-street parking proposal will have city-wide policy implications, and any exemptions proposed by staff will need to consider the needs of various faith groups in the city and weigh the exemptions against certain parking constraints that may make it unfeasible under certain circumstances. A more thorough and equitable examination of the issue is required to understand the implications of such a proposal should it be considered on a city-wide basis.

On June 25 and 26, 2025 City Council adopted - "A Strategic Parking Framework for the City of Toronto" with amendments. This report provides an overview and recommends a Strategic Parking Framework that consists of an interconnected set of policy directions and a program of actions to ensure that the City can effectively manage the complexity of the parking system now and into the future as Toronto grows, develops and evolves. To help address parking demands around religious institutions and religious times of significance, the following amendments to the report were adopted by City Council:

- Requested that the Toronto Police Service Board establish a consistent policy that provides a grace period on religious holidays for vehicles parking near relevant religious institutions during and around religious services.
- Request that the Toronto Parking Authority board to request the President, Toronto Parking Authority, in consultation with the Director, Equity and Human Rights, to report in the first quarter of 2026 on the feasibility of extending free parking at other times of religious significance in addition to Sunday mornings.

The Toronto Police Service-Parking Enforcement Unit have confirmed receipt of the Council direction. They have indicated that no policy is in place at the current time. In the interim, they have expressed concerns with selective exemptions and that they are not something they could reasonably or appropriately design or administer. They have noted there are hundreds of religious institutions across the City of Toronto, with more than forty distinct holy periods and well over one hundred observance days annually. Each institution also hosts multiple weekly services. When considered across the city and over the course of a year, the number of services becomes very high. Many of these institutions are located on major roadways, in commercial areas, near schools, or in residential neighbourhoods where curb space is already in great demand. In the absence of Council direction and regulatory change, statutory holidays remain the only fair and legislated basis for city-wide exemptions.

The Toronto Parking Authority have also confirmed receipt of the Council direction and have also indicated that no policy is in place at the current time. Work on this has already begun, with the retention of a third-party consultant. Community engagement will be commencing imminently, with public and targeted stakeholder engagement.

Accordingly, there is no guidance for Transportation Services to provide direction on the requested parking amendments. Therefore, any changes in the advance of this guidance would be premature and should not be supported.

A map of the area and requested locations is included in Attachment 1.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE



Mike Barnet, P. Eng.
Director, Enforcement and Street Management, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Map - On-Street Parking Review - Adelaide Street East, Lombard Street and Church Street

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