

Temporary Street Closure of Bremner Boulevard for the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2026 Playoff Season

Date: March 13, 2026

To: Toronto and East York Community Council

From: Director, Street Permits, 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 7, 2026 to July 6, 2026 to facilitate the Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment's viewing area for the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2026 playoff season.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Street Permits, 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 7, 2026 to July 6, 2026 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 2026 playoff season and to amend the necessary traffic regulations.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

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

The permit costs for the 2026 Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors playoff season viewing area total approximately \$71,000.00 if the road closure is maintained for the full duration being requested (April 7 to July 6, 2026). The event organizers will be responsible for all costs associated with the 2026 Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors playoff season viewing area.

DECISION HISTORY

Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting of April 3, 2025, by adoption of TE21.40 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 9, 2025, to Wednesday, 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.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.TE21.40>

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>

COMMENTS

The General Manager, Transportation Services requires approval to temporarily close any highway or portion of a highway to vehicular traffic for more than four consecutive days when the closure is intended for social, recreational, community, athletic or cinematographic purposes. As this proposed closure exceeds four consecutive days, approval from Toronto and East York Community Council 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 2026 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. Some portions of the Temporary Street Closure of Bremner Blvd

sidewalks will be closed to pedestrian traffic; however, a pedestrian clearway will be maintained at all times. The viewing area consists of one large screen and, one large temporary stage for viewing and other activations and programming, all located along the perimeter of this portion of Bremner Boulevard to maintain emergency access on the roadway.

The planned closure is scheduled to expire on July 6, 2026 or earlier pending the status of the playoff season, essentially reopening the roadway upon the completion of the Toronto Maple Leafs and Toronto Raptors 2026 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 minimize impacts on all road users resulting from the closure. City staff will continue to coordinate internally and with interested parties, as required, to ensure traffic management measures are implemented effectively. Following the event, Transportation Services staff, in consultation with the local Councillor, emergency services, event organizers, and other interested parties, will evaluate the traffic management plan, with lessons learned informing future street event closures.

A site plan of the temporary closure is included in Attachment 1.

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

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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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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