

Ontario Place Event - RBC Amphitheatre 2026 Traffic Management Strategy

Date: April 28, 2026
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Congestion and Network Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 10, Spadina-Fort York

SUMMARY

As this report requests authority for the General Manager, Transportation Services to issue a Street Event permit for longer than four consecutive days, City Council approval of this report is required.

Transportation Services is requesting authority to approve a Street Event permit from Live Nation Canada to temporarily place fencing installations upon the boulevard on the south side of Lake Shore Boulevard West between Ontario Drive and Strachan Avenue, from May 21, 2026 to October 9, 2026. A Street Event permit is required to temporarily close the boulevard and install the fencing upon the right of way in order to facilitate the traffic management plan (TMP) that will be utilized by Live Nation Canada for concert events held at the Ontario Place RBC Amphitheatre in 2026. Live Nation Canada intends to install temporary fencing to discourage illegal stopping on Lake Shore Boulevard, which occurs frequently during pre and post concert conditions and creates traffic and pedestrian safety concerns. Given that Transportation Services does not have the authority to issue a Street Event permit for longer than four consecutive (4) days, approval from City Council is required in accordance with Section 743-7 of Municipal Code Chapter 743, Streets and Sidewalks, Use of.

At its meeting on April 1, 2026, Toronto and East York Community Council directed the General Manager, Transportation Services, to report back at its meeting on April 30, 2026, on the event organizer's TMP for concert events held at the RBC Amphitheatre in 2026. This report provides an update on Live Nation Canada's proposed TMP strategies.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director, Congestion and Network Management, Transportation Services, recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Transportation Services to approve a Street Event to Live Nation Canada, despite any section of Chapter 743 to the contrary, to facilitate the Ontario Place RBC Amphitheatre events requiring temporary installations upon the boulevard on the south side of Lake Shore Boulevard West between Ontario Drive and Strachan Avenue, from May 21, 2026 to October 9, 2026, inclusive, with such conditions deemed appropriate in the opinion of the General Manager, Transportation Services and the City Solicitor.

2. City Council direct the General Manager, Transportation Services, to include in the Street Event permit issued to Live Nation Canada for the Ontario Place RBC Amphitheatre 2026 traffic management strategy, the following conditions:

(a) that Live Nation Canada be solely responsible for and pay all costs associated with the proposed street closure and installation on the City's right of way, including but not limited to the costs or expenses of any: (i) installations, including but not limited to traffic control devices, barricades, signage or fencing, (ii) modification to existing traffic signage; (iii) costs incurred by the City, acting reasonably, that would not otherwise have been incurred by for the Street Event, including but not limited to additional City services required to accommodate event operations extending beyond anticipated hours or larger-than-anticipated attendance; and (iv) any damage, repairs or restorations to the City's right of way caused by or associated with the Ontario Place RBC Amphitheatre event;

(b) that Live Nation Canada indemnify and hold harmless the City from all claims, damages, costs and losses, direct and indirect, incurred by the City as a result of the proposed Street Event, including any claims related to property damage or personal injury caused or contributed to by the proposed Street Event, or users/attendees of the proposed Street Event, on such terms as deemed appropriate by the General Manager, Transportation Services and the City Solicitor;

(c) such other conditions as the General Manager, Transportation Services deems appropriate.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost to the City for Transportation Services to provide traffic management support for the 2026 RBC Amphitheatre events is approximately \$64,000.00, assuming traffic management measures are implemented for 80 concerts. The City's Road Disruption Activity Reporting System (RoDARS) fee was used to determine the estimated cost. This fee is based on cost recovery for traffic management associated with Traffic Agent Ontario Place Event - RBC Amphitheatre 2026 Traffic Management Strategy

Program support, traffic signal timing changes and other traffic management measures, when occupying the City's right-of-way. It is not feasible for Transportation Services to provide all traffic management measures for all events due to resource availability. Due to the benefits that these concerts bring to the local economy, traffic management costs associated with these events may not be applied.

The permit costs for the 2026 Ontario Place RBC Amphitheatre events are approximately \$18,000.00, if the installation of temporary fencing on the south side of Lake Shore Boulevard is approved. Live Nation Canada will be responsible for all costs associated with the 2026 Ontario Place RBC Amphitheatre events.

DECISION HISTORY

Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting on April 1, 2026, adopted Item TE31.43 and in so doing, requested for the General Manager, Transportation Services, to report back on the 2026 traffic management plan for Live Nation events at the Ontario Place RBC Amphitheatre.

[Agenda Item History - 2026.TE31.43](#)

Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting on September 18, 2025, adopted Item TE25.75 and in so doing, requested for the General Manager, Transportation Services, to report back on trial traffic mitigation measures for special events held on Ontario Place grounds.

[Agenda Item History - 2025.TE25.75](#)

Toronto and East York Community Council, at its meeting on November 27, 2025, adopted Item TE27.52 and in so doing, requested for the General Manager, Transportation Services and the Director, Waterfront Secretariat to report back on traffic safety improvements related to the proposed Ontario Place Redevelopment.

[Agenda Item History - 2025.TE27.52](#)

COMMENTS

Background

Ontario Place is the site of the RBC Amphitheatre (formerly Budweiser Stage) concert venue with a capacity of 16,000 people, located south of Lake Shore Boulevard West, between Ontario Drive/Remembrance Drive and Newfoundland Road/Ontario Place Boulevard (see Attachment 1). As a result of ongoing redevelopment work, all publicly accessible general purpose parking spaces were eliminated on the Ontario Place grounds.

As part of the RBC Amphitheatre event planning, Transportation Services routinely meets with Live Nation, Ontario Place, Exhibition Place, Municipal Licensing and Standards (MLS), Toronto Police Services (TPS) and other relevant partners to support Live Nation Canada's traffic management strategies, and event-related pickup and drop-off plans in the area surrounding Ontario Place. This report contains details of Live Nation Canada's TMP for RBC Amphitheatre concerts in 2026, along with recommendations for City Council to help facilitate the implementation of the TMP.

2026 Ontario Place RBC Amphitheatre Event TMP

As part of the TMP, the measures normally utilized for RBC Amphitheatre events will be implemented, which are discussed under the heading "Existing Measures for RBC Amphitheatre Events" in the April 1, 2026 report to Toronto and East York Community Council (refer to the report [Agenda Item History - 2026.TE31.43](#)).

In collaboration with other stakeholders, Live Nation Canada is proposing applying the additional measures listed below as part of their TMP in 2026:

- Live Nation Canada will coordinate an on-site event command centre, for enhanced stakeholder coordination and collaboration.
- Subject to City Council approval of the recommendations in this report, Live Nation Canada will install temporary fencing on the south side of Lake Shore Boulevard for the duration of the concert schedule in 2026, between Ontario Drive and Strachan Avenue, to discourage vehicle stopping on Lake Shore Boulevard by preventing pedestrian access to vehicles and to the venue from Lake Shore Boulevard (see Attachment 2). On non concert dates, for pedestrian access purposes, a minimum of one panel opening will be available in the section between Ontario Drive and New Brunswick Way/Remembrance Drive, and another two panel openings will be available between New Brunswick Way/Remembrance Drive and Newfoundland Road/Ontario Place Boulevard. The existing pedestrian and vehicle access at all signalized intersections will be maintained during all times.
- Live Nation Canada will manage the set-up and removal of a temporary dedicated right-turn lane for eastbound traffic in the south curb lane on Lake Shore Boulevard West (from west of Ontario Place Boulevard/Newfoundland Road to Strachan Avenue) to facilitate right-in/right-out access at the intersection of Lake Shore Boulevard West and Newfoundland Road/Ontario Place Boulevard for pickup/drop-off within Ontario Place grounds.

Coordination with FIFA

Transportation Services consulted with the FIFA Planning Team, who confirmed they have no concerns with the temporary fencing on Lake Shore Boulevard West during the FIFA tournament.

There are no concerts on FIFA match game days, however, there are currently 14 concerts that overlap with FIFA Fan Festival dates.

Live Nation Canada is working with TPS and Transportation Services to obtain resources to support key locations on these 14 overlapping dates. As resources will be limited during the FIFA tournament period, Transportation Services will also be looking at existing resources assigned to the same area for FIFA and whether these resources can also support traffic management for the concerts. This includes Traffic Agents and CMC resources to make traffic signal timing changes.

Additional Traffic Mitigation Measures

Live Nation Canada will assess their concert schedule and identify which may have the greatest anticipated impact on network traffic based on the number of attendees and nearby concurrent events. Due to staffing and financial constraints with implementing all possible traffic mitigation measures for the high number of planned concert events (approximately 80), Live Nation Canada will engage with the following stakeholders to request the additional measures listed below for critical/key event dates:

Exhibition Place

- To assess the possibility of providing an alternative egress route via Exhibition Place grounds.
- To coordinate availability of parking on Exhibition Place grounds.

TPS

- For TPS Parking Enforcement Officers to enforce the no stopping by-law on Lake Shore Boulevard West and issue drive-away tickets for infractions.
- For TPS Pay Duty Officers to patrol Lake Shore Boulevard West and provide a visual deterrence to motorist considering stopping on Lake Shore Boulevard West. Additional officers are to be deployed at key intersections with heavy pedestrian activity, to provide guidance to motorists and pedestrians.

Transportation Services

- To deploy Traffic Agents to manage traffic at key intersections.
- To utilize portable variable message signs (PVMS) to provide guidance to motorists approaching the venue and to inform motorists of stopping prohibition on Lake Shore Boulevard and the associated fines.
- To provide traffic signal operations staff coverage in the City's Congestion Management Centre, to monitor and make real-time signal timing changes as needed.
- To work with the City's Communications team, to communicate information on the TMP strategies and ensure consistent messaging with the stakeholders.

Municipal Licensing and Standards

- To engage with rideshare companies to inform them of any service issues and of enforcement that may apply.

- To deploy officers to provide an enhanced presence and deterrence for drivers that are soliciting, refusing fares, and price gouging.

Next Steps

The City will continue to work with Live Nation and other event stakeholders in providing support for the concert events; however, staff availability and financial impacts may limit the implementation of all requested traffic management measures for all concert event days in 2026.

The Ward Councillor was advised of the recommendations in this report.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Roger Browne, M.A.Sc., P. Eng.
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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Location Plan of Ontario Place

Attachment 2: 2026 RBC Amphitheatre Temporary Fencing for TMP

Attachment 1: Location Plan of Ontario Place



