

Temporary Adjustments to Traffic and Parking Regulations for 2026 Distillery Winter Village (Non-Delegated)

Date: June 19, 2026
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Director, Traffic Management, Transportation Services
Wards: Ward 10, Spadina-Fort York
Ward 13, Toronto Centre

SUMMARY

As the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) operates transit service on Parliament Street, Mill Street and Front Street East, City Council approval of this report is required.

The purpose of this report is to seek City Council's authority to enact temporary traffic and parking amendments to enhance traffic operations for patrons accessing the event, to help the local community with their parking needs, and to enhance pedestrian safety by minimizing traffic infiltration on local roads during the 2026 Distillery Winter Village event, which will take place from November 12, 2026 to January 3, 2027, inclusive.

Drawing on lessons learned from previous Distillery Winter Village events, as well as input from the event organizer and their consultant, the local councillor, local residents, and Transportation Services staff, the event organizer and their consultant submitted a traffic management plan to minimize impacts of increased event-related traffic on the surrounding community. Strategies in the traffic management plan are intended to manage traffic infiltration into local neighbourhood streets, reduce circulation by non-local vehicles, and prioritize access for residents. The proposed approach reflects established practices used in prior years and is designed to support safe and efficient movement while limiting disruption to the local area.

To implement these measures, Transportation Services is recommending a series of temporary by-law amendments, as outlined in Attachments 1 and 2. A companion report, "Temporary Adjustments to Traffic and Parking Regulations for 2026 Distillery Winter Village (Delegated)", outlining the required temporary traffic and parking amendments for locations without TTC service was submitted to Toronto East York Community Council for consideration in parallel with this report.

Further details on broader traffic and congestion management strategies to be implemented by Transportation Services are also provided in this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

1. City Council authorize the temporary traffic and parking regulations on streets in the vicinity of Distillery District that are impacted during the Distillery Winter Village, identified in Attachment 1, attached to the report "Temporary Adjustments to Traffic and Parking Regulations for 2026 Distillery Winter Village (Non-Delegated)", dated June 19, 2026 from the Director, Congestion and Network Management, Transportation Services. The temporary traffic and parking regulations will override all existing regulations for the duration of this event (November 12, 2026 to January 3, 2027).

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The permit cost for the Distillery Winter Village event is estimated at \$1,450.00.

The Distillery Winter Village event organizers will be responsible for implementing all necessary signage changes associated with this report and will be responsible for the full associated costs with the event.

The event organizers will be responsible for the costs associated with the removal of the Pay and Display parking, totalling \$10,921.75.

DECISION HISTORY

Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting of October 22, 2025, by adoption of TE26.34 authorized the temporary parking regulations on streets in the vicinity of Distillery District that are impacted during the Distillery Winter Village.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.TE26.34>

City Council at its meeting of November 12 and 13, 2025, by adoption of TE26.35 authorized the temporary traffic and parking regulations on streets in the vicinity of Distillery District that are impacted during the Distillery Winter Village.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.TE26.35>

City Council at its meeting of May 21 and 22, 2025, by adoption of TE22.19 directed Transportation Services and Municipal Licensing and Standards to develop a set of criteria for managing festivals and events on private property and report back in the fourth quarter of 2025.

<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2025.TE22.19>

Toronto and East York Community Council at its meeting of October 24, 2024, by adoption of TE17.31 authorized the temporary parking regulations on streets in the vicinity of Distillery District that are impacted during the Distillery Winter Village.
<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.TE17.31>

City Council at its meeting of November 13 and 14, 2024, by adoption of TE17.32 authorized the temporary traffic and parking regulations on streets in the vicinity of Distillery District that are impacted during the Distillery Winter Village.
<https://secure.toronto.ca/council/agenda-item.do?item=2024.TE17.32>

COMMENTS

This year the Distillery Winter Village will take place in the Distillery District from November 12, 2026 to January 3, 2027, inclusive. Transportation Services is seeking Community and City Council authority to implement a series of temporary traffic and parking regulations on streets in the vicinity of Distillery District to manage event-related impacts in support of the traffic mitigation plan.

The development of the traffic mitigation plan involved a review of previous Distillery Winter Village traffic management plans, as well as consultation with Councillors, local residents, the event organizer and their consultant, and Transportation Services staff. This process enabled the identification of key issues and involved the refinement of strategies to address event-related traffic impacts on the surrounding community.

The following sections of this report outline the proposed traffic mitigation measures, including the associated temporary by-law amendments as outlined in Attachment 1, along with the rationale for each recommended change as well as additional measures to provide greater traffic management support, both in the field and through the RESCU Congestion Management Centre.

Previously Implemented in 2025/2026 (to continue for 2026/2027)

- To discourage pickup and drop off activity disruptive to traffic flow in the area, implement No Stopping on both sides of Parliament Street, from King Street East to Lake Shore Boulevard East
- To improve traffic flow and discourage obstruction of westbound left-turn movements from Mill Street onto Parliament Street, implement No Stopping on the south side of Mill Street, from Parliament Street to Trinity Street, except for an 11-metre section where 15-minute Parking is allowed adjacent to an access point at 33 Mill Street
- To improve traffic circulation and discourage neighbourhood infiltration, designate Front Street East as one-way eastbound, and prohibit associated affected northbound left-turn, southbound right-turn and westbound through movements at Cherry Street and Front Street East

New or Modified changes for 2026/2027

- To strategically provide space for Distillery Winter Village patron pickups and drop offs, implement a Passenger Loading Zone on the south side of Front Street East, between Trinity Street and 83 metres east of Trinity Street. In the previous year, this extended to a point 70 metres west of Cherry Street, but will be modified to create space and accommodate a Bus Loading Zone. A Bus Loading Zone was previously located on the west side of Trinity Street, between Front Street East and Mill Street, and its relocation will free up space for parking for persons with disabilities on Trinity Street, for which the by-law changes are in the companion report titled "Temporary Adjustments to Traffic and Parking Regulations for 2026 Distillery Winter Village (Delegated)".
- To strategically provide space for Distillery Winter Village patron pickups and drop offs, implementing a Bus Loading Zone on the south side of Front Street East, between 83 metres east of Trinity Street and 57 metres west of Cherry Street.
- To support the above noted Passenger Loading Zone and Bus Loading Zone, implement No Standing on the south side of Front Street East, from Trinity Street to a point 57 metres west of Cherry Street.

A map of the affected streets is shown in Attachment 2.

To discourage neighbourhood infiltration during the Distillery Winter Village Event, Toronto Police personnel will temporarily close/provide restricted vehicle access (to local residents, taxis and buses) to Mill Street (from Parliament Street to Cherry Street) and Trinity Street (from Front Street East to Mill Street). The schedule for restricted access times at the time that this report was prepared is as follows, noting that Toronto Police have authority to change these on an as-needed basis:

- From Thursday, November 12 to Friday, December 18, 2026, Thursdays and Fridays 3:00 pm to close
- From Saturday, November 14 to Sunday, December 20, 2026, Saturdays and Sundays 12:00 pm to close
- From Monday, December 14 to Wednesday, December 16, 2026, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 3:00 pm to close
- From Monday, December 21 to Sunday, January 3, 2027, 12:00 pm to close daily, except on Thursday, December 31, 2026, 3:00 pm to 1:00 am the following day, and on Friday, December 25, 2026, 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm (even though there will be no festival operations)

Other Proposed Congestion and Network Management Measures

Below are additional congestion and network management measures that will be utilized by Transportation Services for the 2026 Distillery Winter Village event:

- Coordinate road works in the surrounding area.

- Implement signal timing adjustments within the Liberty Village and surrounding neighbourhood, including those timing plans recently developed to support FIFA operations.
- Provide enhanced monitoring and operational support through additional Transportation Services staff in the RESCU Congestion Management Centre during key periods of higher attendance. Staff will actively monitor traffic conditions using available traffic camera infrastructure, including recently installed cameras, to respond promptly to incidents and implement minor traffic signal timing adjustments, as required, to improve traffic flow.
- Provide Traffic Agent support at key locations

Upon completion of the event, Transportation Services staff, in consultation with the local Councillors, the event organizers and other stakeholders will debrief and evaluate lessons learned to identify any amendments to improve the traffic management plan for the following year.

A companion report is also submitted relating the temporary traffic and parking adjustments for the 2026 Distillery Winter Village for streets not served by transit routes, for which a summary of the changes and map are included in Attachment 3.

The local Ward Councillors have been advised of the recommendations of this staff report.

CONTACT

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Temporary Parking and Traffic Regulations to be enacted in connection with the 2026 Distillery Winter Village

Attachment 2: Map - Distillery District Winter Village 2026: Streets with Proposed Temporary Parking and Traffic Regulations

Attachment 3: Summary of Companion Report Changes

Attachment 1: Temporary Parking and Traffic Regulations to be enacted in connection with the 2026 Distillery Winter Village.

Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking - Schedule VII: Passenger Loading Zones

Highway	Side	Location	Times and/or Days
Front Street East	South	Between Trinity Street and a point 83 metres east of Trinity Street	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027

Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking - Schedule XIV: No Stopping

Highway	Side	Between	Prohibited Times and/or Days
Parliament Street	Both	King Street East and Lake Shore Boulevard East	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027
Mill Street	South	Parliament Street and a point 90 metres east	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027
Mill Street	South	A point 101 metres east of Parliament Street and Trinity Street	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027

Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking, Schedule XVI: No Standing

Highway	Side	Between	Prohibited Times and/or Days
Front Street East	South	Trinity Street and a point 57 metres west of Cherry Street	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027

Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking - Schedule XVIII: One-Way Highways

Highway	Between	Location Times and/or Days	Direction
Front Street East	Trinity Street and Cherry Street	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027	Eastbound

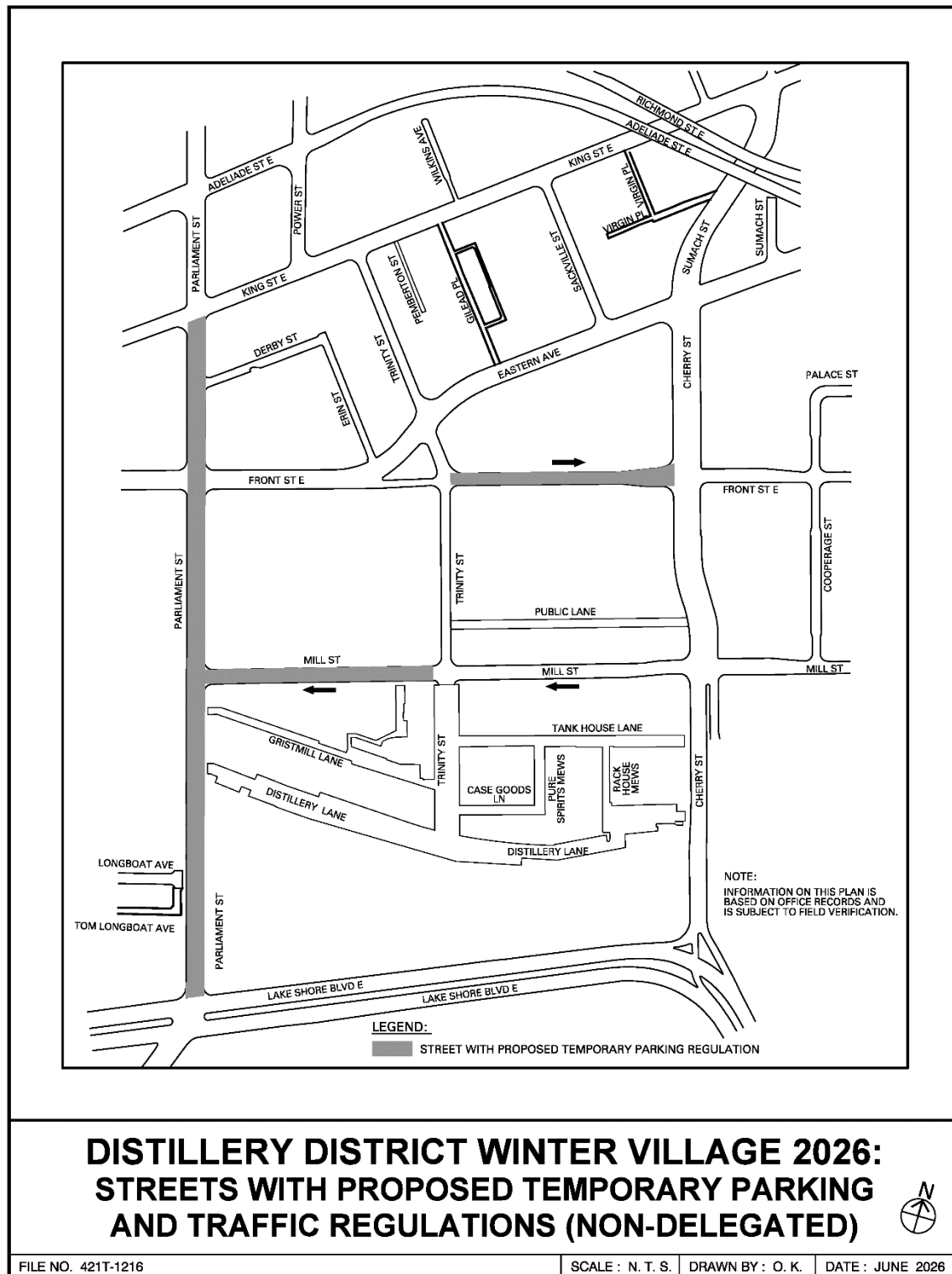
Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking - Schedule XXIII: Prohibited Turns

Intersection or Portion of Highway	Direction	Turns Prohibited	Times and/or Days
Cherry Street and Front Street East	Northbound	Left	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027
Cherry Street and Front Street East	Southbound	Right	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027
Cherry Street and Front Street East	Westbound	Through	Anytime from and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027

Chapter 950, Traffic and Parking, Schedule X: Bus Loading Zones

Highway	Side	Between	Times and/or Days	Maximum Period Permitted
Front Street East	South	A point 83 metres east of Trinity Street and a point 57 metres west of Cherry Street	Anytime	From and including Thu. Nov. 12, 2026 to and including Sun. Jan. 3, 2027

Attachment 2: Map - Distillery District Winter Village 2026: Streets with Proposed Temporary Parking and Traffic Regulations



Attachment 3: Summary of Companion Report Changes

Below is a summary of the by-law changes in the companion report titled "Temporary Adjustments to Parking and Traffic Regulations for 2026 Distillery Winter Village (Delegated)".

- Implementing No Stopping on the east side of Trinity Street, from Mill Street to a point 28 metres further north
- Temporarily amending permit parking hours on various residential streets in the vicinity of the Distillery District, to 24 hours to ensure that parking spaces on these streets are available for local residents for the duration of the event
- Temporarily amending permit parking hours on Sackville Street from King Street East to Eastern Avenue, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., 7 days a week.
- Temporarily Implementing a Stand for Taxicabs on the west side of Trinity Street, from a point 9 metres south of Front Street East to a point 50 metres south of Front Street East,
- Temporarily implementing on-street parking for persons with disabilities for permit holders on the west side of Trinity Street, from 28 metres north of Mill Street to a point 50 metres south of Front Street East.

Attachment 3: Summary of Companion Report Changes (Continued)

