



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Road Classification System Update

Date:	October 20, 2012	
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee	
From:	Acting General Manager, Transportation Services	
Wards:	Ward 2 (Etobicoke North) Ward 20 (Trinity-Spadina) Ward 4 (Etobicoke Centre) Ward 23 (Willowdale) Ward 6 (Etobicoke-Lakeshore) Ward 27 (Toronto Centre-Rosedale) Ward 7 (York West) Ward 34 (Don Valley East) Ward 8 (York West) Ward 42 (Scarborough-Rouge River) Ward 16 (Eglinton-Lawrence) Ward 18 (Davenport) Ward 19 (Trinity-Spadina)	
Reference Number:	P:\2012\ClusterB\TRA\TIM\pw12026tim	

SUMMARY

The Transportation Services Division has undertaken a review of the street designations contained in the current Road Classification System. The review process included input from District Road Operations and Traffic Operations staffs in the Division and consultation with all affected Ward Councillors. The process assisted in determining the appropriate road classification for new streets assumed by the City and allowed for the re-examination of the classification of existing streets whose current designation did not reflect the intended purpose or did not match the current functional operation of the road.

This report provides information on the background, review and consultation process used to develop the road classification changes and seeks approval from City Council to amend the current Road Classification System with the changes contained in the table included in Appendix 2 of this report, entitled "Road Classification Update – Table of Changes."

RECOMMENDATION

The Acting General Manager, Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council approve the changes to the City of Toronto Road Classification System contained in Appendix 2 of this report.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report. Any changes to the road management and maintenance practices resulting from the reclassification of existing roads or classification of new roads can be accommodated within Transportation Services Annual Operating Budget.

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

DECISION HISTORY

City Council, at its meeting of February 29 and March 1 and 2, 2000, adopted a Road Classification System for the City (Clause No. 1 of Report No. 4 of the Works Committee) which consolidated and replaced the various road classification systems of the former seven pre-amalgamated municipalities. When City Council adopted the current Road Classification System, it also requested that the Transportation Services Division submit a staff report seeking City Council's approval of any future changes to the system requiring a road designation of "collector" or higher.

COMMENTS

The City of Toronto Road Classification System was most recently updated by City Council at its meeting of June 19, 20 and 22, 2007 (Item PW6.11). The Road Classification System designates streets into different groups or classes according to the type of service each group is intended to provide and is a fundamental tool in guiding urban development, road management and maintenance. Grouping roads with similar functions can improve transportation planning, road infrastructure design, road maintenance, and traffic and road operations. With the aim of improving the function of the City's road network, each street has been designated with one of the following five road classifications: Expressway, Major Arterial, Minor Arterial, Collector and Local. The table contained in Appendix 1, entitled "Road Classification Criteria," approved previously in 2000 by City Council, is used to designate every street into one of these five classifications. The City street network includes 9,520 streets, comprising approximately 5,180 centre-line kilometres.

The maintenance of the Road Classification System ensures that the existing road network, and any new streets assumed by the City, are correctly classified based on their current functional

levels. As part of the latest exercise, a two step consultation and review process was undertaken. The first step included canvassing input from District divisional staff. Staff undertook a review of the road sections they felt required reclassification and provided the justification to support any change. The second step in the process involved consultation with those Ward Councillors affected by this review. Each Ward Councillor was advised of the proposed reclassification of streets within their respective wards and any comments received were taken into consideration in the development of the final road classification recommendations, included in Appendix 2, entitled "Road Classification Update – Table of Changes."

The table contains 47 street sections, sorted by ward, that are proposed to be classified or reclassified. The table also identifies the key characteristics/factors that were used as the basis for the (re)classification of the road, including daily motor vehicle traffic volume, flow characteristics, presence of traffic control signals, posted speed limit, the presence of surface transit and desirable network connectivity.

Updating the current Road Classification System with the recommended changes will ensure that the City's road network will continue to function efficiently and safely and be properly operated and managed.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

John Mende, P.Eng.
Acting General Manager
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NC/cs

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1: Road Classification Criteria
Appendix 2: Road Classification Update – Table of Changes