



ACTION REQUIRED

Notice of Motion

Meeting Date: September 28, 2015

Subject: Spacing and Safety of Bus Stops

Whereas Councillor Frances Nunziata, Ward 11, York South – Weston, has submitted two letters to the attention of the TTC Chair; and

Whereas both letters relate to an issue of spacing between bus stops;

Be it resolved that:

1. Staff report back on the matters of appropriate spacing between bus stops, the potential safety benefits of locating stops at protected crossings such as traffic signals and pedestrian crosswalks, and the effects of traffic signals and pedestrian crosswalks on both overall traffic operations and the speed and reliability of transit services; and
2. Staff not take any action to remove either of the bus stops referenced in the letters from Councillor Nunziata, in order to allow the Board to consider the aforementioned staff report before responding to the Councillor.

Mover: _____

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'John Collier', written over a horizontal line.

Seconder: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Attachments: Letters from Councillor Frances Nunziata

Councillor Frances Nunziata

Council Speaker

Ward 11 York South—Weston



July 17, 2015

Councillor Josh Colle
Chair, Toronto Transit Commission
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Chair Colle,

Re: Proposed Elimination of Bus Stop at Rockcliffe Middle School (400 Rockcliffe Blvd)

I write to request that the Toronto Transit Commission reverse its plans to eliminate the bus stop on Rockcliffe Boulevard, directly across from Rockcliffe Middle School, located at 400 Rockcliffe Boulevard.

Earlier this year, representatives from the TTC were made aware of the City of Toronto's plans to install a pinch point crossing in front of Rockcliffe Middle School as part of the City's Bikeway Trails Implementation Plan. In addition to creating a connection between the Lavender Creek Trail and the Smythe Park Trail, the pinch point crossing will also reduce the distance students of Rockcliffe Middle School have to traverse across the road to access the northbound bus stop across from their school.

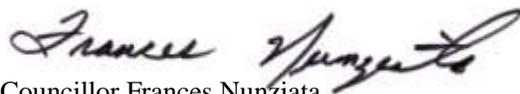
In May 2015, Transportation Services was informed by the TTC that the decision had been made to remove both the northbound and southbound stops and on May 13th, my office was informed that the bus stops were scheduled for removal on June 1st and that notices were posted by the TTC informing customers about the change. As expected, the notices prompted a flurry of calls from concerned parents, teachers, and school board representatives advocating for the maintenance of the stops at this location. A meeting was subsequently held with representatives from Transportation Services, the TTC, the Principal of Rockcliffe Middle School, and concerned parents at which the message to the TTC was made clear – the students of Rockcliffe Middle School rely on this bus stop to get to school safely, particularly in the winter months where walking to or from school using the next closest stop could be treacherous.

While I understand the TTC is moving toward eliminating closely-spaced stops, I believe that this should not be applied as a "blanket policy" and instead, consideration should be given to the area in which a stop is located and the customers using the stop.

I request that the northbound and southbound bus stops in front of Rockcliffe Middle School at 400 Rockcliffe Boulevard be spared from elimination for the benefit and safety of the students who use it.

I, together with the Principal, parents and teachers of Rockcliffe Middle School, would welcome the opportunity to appear before the Commission to speak to, in person, the need to maintain the stops in question.

Sincerely,



Councillor Frances Nunziata
Ward 11, York South-Weston

Councillor Frances Nunziata

Council Speaker

Ward 11 York South—Weston



July 17, 2015

Councillor Josh Colle
Chair, Toronto Transit Commission
Toronto City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Chair Colle,

Re: Maintaining the Bus Stop at Weston Road and Dora Spencer Road

I write to request that the Toronto Transit Commission reconsider the position of TTC staff to eliminate the bus stop on Weston Road and Dora Spencer Road.

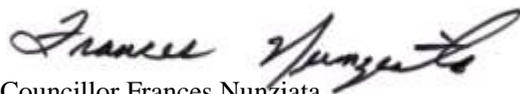
Last year, due to safety concerns regarding the turn radius at the intersection of Weston Road and Sidney Belsey Crescent, the alignment of the curb at the southwest corner of the intersection was reconfigured. While a bus shelter had been installed at this location which is heavily used by TTC customers, the new configuration does not have sufficient space to accommodate a shelter. Ample room exists at the far side of the intersection for the existing bus stop to be relocated and a shelter installed. City staff approached the TTC with this request and after much discussion and an onsite meeting, the TTC informed the City that the bus stop could be relocated to the far side of the intersection; however, the TTC advised that the spacing to the next stop at Dora Spencer Road would consequently be reduced, and as such, the stop at Dora Spencer Road would be eliminated.

The existing bus stop at the intersection of Weston Road and Dora Spencer Road services the TTC's customers at 200 Dora Spencer Road, an apartment building made up primarily of seniors. In the past, I have received requests from residents at 200 Dora Spencer Road for a TTC route that would travel on Dora Spencer Road as they find it difficult to walk the 100 plus metre distance from their building to the existing bus stop at Weston Road. If the TTC proceeds with its plans to consolidate the existing bus stops on Weston Road and Dora Spencer Road and Sidney Belsey Crescent, residents of 200 Dora Spencer Road will have to walk an additional 105 metres to the south to reach the new consolidated stop location.

While it is appropriate for the TTC to have "Stop Guidelines", I believe that discretion should be used in the application of these guidelines. At this particular location, adhering to the guidelines will provide a barrier for the many seniors of 200 Dora Spencer Road to access public transit.

At this time I ask for the Commission's support in ensuring that the relocation of the bus stop at the northwest corner of Weston Road and Sidney Belsey Crescent to the far side of the intersection proceed while maintaining the existing bus stop at Dora Spencer Road.

Sincerely,



Councillor Frances Nunziata
Ward 11, York South-Weston