

C-3

Correspondence received requesting that the streetcar stop at King and Trinity Streets not be removed

PRESENTED TO
THE BOARD

MAY 28 2014

May 27, 2014

From: Julie Beddoes, 39 Parliament St., #506, Toronto, M5A 4R2

Dear TTC Commissioners,

I believe that you are to consider the removal of the route 504 streetcar stop at King and Trinity Streets.

It is very hard to understand why this would ever have been proposed. The stop serves not only a major destination in The Distillery District but also a growing residential and employment population in the King-Parliament area.

A few years ago our community was able to demonstrate to City traffic planners that pedestrian usage of Trinity was sufficient to justify installation of a traffic signal at Eastern Ave. This has only increased its value as an access to sites south of King St.

Safe and easy transit/pedestrian access to The Distillery is vital given the limited parking and the nuisance, danger and pollution caused by vehicles circling the area in search of a parking place. Rather than reducing non-auto access, the TTC would do better to publicise the routes that now service the area and improving service on them.

There are many ways in which service on TTC routes could be improved. Limiting passenger access is not one of them. Please keep this stop in operation.

Julie Beddoes

cc Cllr. McConnell

May 27, 2014

Dear Commission

As a resident of the Distillery District, I have been made aware that the TTC is considering removing the streetcar stop at Trinity Street and King.

I respectfully URGE you not to do so. This is a critical stop for residents of the Distillery accessing the downtown core. It is already several blocks away from the Distillery and to remove it would mean walking further east or west along King to Parliament or to Shuter which is dangerous to traverse due to ongoing TTC construction. (Using the Parliament Street bus is already a slower option.) This is a denial of service for this neighbourhood, particularly since this neighbourhood is undergoing a vast expansion.

Perhaps when Cherry Street is finally open such a destructive move could be considered, but continual delays do not make that imminent.

Sincerely,

Sugith Varughese

80 Mill Street, PH3
Toronto, ON M5A 4T3

May 27, 2014

Dear Commissioners:

Hi,

It has come to the attention of several people in my neighbourhood (the Distillery District) that there are plans to remove the Trinity and King streetcar stop from the 504 King route.

This stop is a primary access point for the Distillery, as the public interest and infrastructure of this neighbourhood is growing, I cannot understand this decision. The stop is already quite a distance from the Distillery and is the only option for those who want to travel by TTC to a corner of the city that is separate from the core of the city. With the upcoming development of the neighbourhood: all the new condo construction, the new commercial development in that region and increased tourism from an improved Waterfront, we need to continue to have access to the TTC - why would the area be specifically developed but existing public transit infrastructure removed at the same time? It makes no sense in a city where we want to prioritize and encourage public transit over congestion and cars.

The Parliament & King stop is already overrun and I regularly encounter people who are lost or confused about the 10 minute walk to a purported "tourist destination" during summer and Christmas festivals, or to find restaurants and shops.

Please do continue to service this stop for the broader public interest and in order to continue to connect the people of the city of Toronto to a landmark destination and to their homes

With thanks,

Defne Garner

May 27, 2014

Dear Commissioners:

Hello,

I am writing to comment on the proposed removal of the streetcar stop at King and Trinity. I live in the Distillery District and can attest to the fact that this stop is an important resource. First, for area residents it is much more convenient than the stop at King and Parliament. Second, when there are events at the Distillery (and there are many throughout the summer plus a three-week Christmas Market), the stop at King and Parliament is insufficient for the large crowds coming to and from the Distillery. I sincerely hope that the TTC will not remove the one at Trinity.

Thank you and all best,
Dena Taylor

May 27, 2014

Dear Commissioners:

I am a resident of the Distillery District and I have been accustomed to getting on and off the streetcar at Trinity and King. In the past, our neighbourhood association (Gooderham & Worts) has successfully advocated for a signaled crossing at Trinity and Eastern to make a safer route to King St. We have also requested a crossing be installed at Trinity and King.

There are a number of reasons for this stop to be kept:

- 1) Little Trinity Church is at this intersection and a number of members arrive by streetcar
- 2) Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, directly south of Little Trinity Church is a destination for wedding receptions and other similar events. Street parking is limited, so the easiest way is via streetcar.
- 3) The gates to the Distillery District are at Mill and Trinity St. and there are many visitors who have used this stop for the pleasant walk down the street, enjoying the other historic buildings along the route.

For the past year, the 504 streetcar has been diverted along Queen Street from River to Parliament, so this stop has been inoperable. Many of my neighbours have been asked repeatedly by people arriving at the corner of Parliament and King for directions to the Distillery District. The confusion would be alleviated by keeping this stop in operation and adding a signalized crossing at the intersection.

I object to the notion that making people walk an extra 150 metres is not a significant inconvenience. Tell that to the people who have already walked from the Distillery District at Mill St or the residents of the district who are returning from shopping with parcels, that it is **only** another 150 metres to walk. If the TTC wants ridership to increase and a reduction of gridlock, it is not good business practice to make the experience less enjoyable.

Please reconsider the elimination of this stop in both directions.

Jane Robinson
80 Mill St #801
Toronto, ON M5A 4T3
416-203-1562

May 27, 2014

Dear Commissioners:

In the staff report to tomorrow's TTC meeting, staff propose to remove the TTC stop at King and Trinity.

I am a Distillery District resident and wish to protest this proposal, which is not customer-service friendly and but also does not consider the accessibility needs of public transit users who have mobility issues and those travelling with young children.

This proposal is yet a further example of the cavalier approach that the TTC continues to take with respect to the public transit needs of the residents of and visitors to the Distillery District.

Aside from the reality that residents have been without the 72/172 Cherry bus service on Cherry and on Mill Streets for almost two years in often extreme weather conditions, residents and visitors alike have had to trek to Parliament and King for erratic at best streetcar service since last Fall, with no end to this inconvenience in sight.

Are staff unaware of the large numbers of people who must already wait up to 15 minutes for the streetcar at King and Parliament?

As King East of Parliament continues to evolve and grow with more condominium units soon to be occupied, the recommendation to remove the TTC stop at King and Trinity is extremely short-sighted.

I urge the Commissioners to reject this recommendation and ensure that the stop at King and Trinity Streets remain in service.

Thank you.
Margaret Dougherty