



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

52F Lawrence West Routing Change to Braecrest Avenue

Date:	September 28, 2016
To:	TTC Board
From:	Chief Executive Officer

Summary

On March 30, 2014, transit service along Lawrence Avenue West was changed to provide better and more-reliable service for customers. This included the introduction of the 52F LAWRENCE WEST (Lawrence Station-Royal York) supplemental service that operates at limited times of the week. This report recommends a minor-routing change to the 52F LAWRENCE WEST bus service to operate on Braecrest Avenue, a road which currently does not have any scheduled transit service. This routing change would improve eastbound service on Lawrence Avenue West, between Royal York Road and Scarlett Road.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Approve the recommended changes, as detailed in this report, effective February 13, 2017.

Financial Summary

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Accessibility/Equity Matters

The recommended changes in this report will improve eastbound transit service for customers at The Village of Humber Heights, a seniors' retirement home at 2245 Lawrence Avenue West. There are no other accessibility or equity issues resulting from the adoption of this report.

Issue Background

The 52 LAWRENCE WEST route serves approximately 43,900 customers daily. It operates mainly along Lawrence Avenue West, Dixon Road, and The Westway. The route

also connects to Line 1 YONGE-UNIVERSITY at two stations: Lawrence Station and Lawrence West Station.

The 52F branch of the LAWRENCE WEST bus route (Lawrence Station-Royal York) was introduced on March 30, 2014, as part of improvements to transit service along Lawrence Avenue West. Currently, service on the 52F branch operates from Lawrence Station, west on Lawrence Avenue West, through Lawrence West Station, west on Lawrence Avenue West, north on Royal York Road, east on Dixon Road, south on Scarlett Road, and returning east on Lawrence Avenue West to Lawrence Station. The 52F branch operates Monday to Saturday in the daytime periods, in order to provide supplemental capacity along the busiest part of the route.

Comments

Regular review of this service, together with input from operating staff, found that service could be improved by modifying the routing on the 52F branch at its west end. Instead of buses turning around via Royal York Road, Dixon Road, and Scarlett Road, buses would turn around using Braecrest Avenue, between Royal York Road and The Westway. The recommended routing would be from Lawrence Station, west on Lawrence Avenue West, through Lawrence West Station, west on Lawrence Avenue West, south on Royal York Road, west on Braecrest Avenue, and returning east on The Westway and Lawrence Avenue West to Lawrence Station. The attached map shows the recommended routing change.

This segment of Braecrest Avenue currently does not have any scheduled transit service. This routing is suitable for bus operations, and has been used for many years for unscheduled short turns. There are no homes or residences fronting on this segment of Braecrest Avenue that will be affected by the new transit service.

This routing change would improve service for customers travelling eastbound on Lawrence Avenue West, between Royal York Road and Scarlett Road, by providing two-way service along this part of the route. Two-way service on a road is considered best practice as it provides customers with predictable and more convenient service patterns, more-intuitive stop locations, and increased service. TTC service would not be removed from any streets as part of this change. This routing change would improve eastbound service from approximately every 11-13 minutes to every 5-7 minutes. Approximately 440 customers would benefit from this improved two-way service, improving their wait time by approximately six minutes.

This routing change would change eastbound service from approximately every 3-5 minutes to every 5-7 minutes for customers on Dixon Road and Scarlett Road, between Royal York Road and Lawrence Avenue West. Approximately 420 customers would be inconvenienced with a slightly longer wait time of approximately two minutes.

Overall, this routing change would improve the weighted journey time for customers. An overall reduction in journey time results in an overall improvement in transit service. There would be no change to other services on the 52 LAWRENCE WEST route.

Conclusion

The benefit of a shorter wait by six minutes for customers on Lawrence Avenue West, between Royal York Road and Scarlett Road, is greater than the inconvenience of a two-minute longer wait for customers on Dixon Road and Scarlett Road, between Royal York Road and Lawrence Avenue West. Overall, more customers would benefit from this routing change than customers would be inconvenienced. It is recommended that the Board approve the routing change for the 52F LAWRENCE WEST service to operate on Braecrest Avenue. If approved, this routing change could be implemented starting February 13, 2017.

Contact

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Attachments

Appendix A: Map – 52F Lawrence West Routing Change to Braecrest Avenue

