



Fairview Branch Parking Lot Control Improvements

Date:	December 9, 2013
To:	Toronto Public Library Board
From:	City Librarian

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to outline how access to the Fairview Branch parking lot can be better restricted to Library customers only. The installation of gates at the entrance and exit from the lot will ensure that commuters and community residents do not park in the lot overnight or before the library opens. The gates will be programmed to support library and theatre operating hours. Ticketing will be used as well to restrict parking lot access to library customers during branch open hours.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The cost to purchase and install two gates is \$40,000 and this can be accommodated within the 2014 operating budget. This onetime cost is offset by annual savings of \$9,400 in security guard services which will result from installing the gates.

The Director, Finance & Treasurer has reviewed this financial impact statement and is in agreement with it.

DECISION HISTORY

At the meeting on September 23, 2013, as part of the consideration of the paid parking pilot project assessment at Fairview, the Board adopted a motion that, *“requests staff to report back on how access to the Fairview Branch parking lot can be better restricted to Library patrons only, including the potential installation of a gate.”*

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Fairview Branch's parking lot has 117 spaces. It is located next to a paid lot for health offices and extensive parking lots for Fairview Mall, which are free but do not open until 9:30 am. Nearby, closer to the subway entrance, there is also a TTC Commuter Parking lot with paid parking from 5:00 am to 9:30 am on weekdays only. The library lot is often full and gates and ticketing have been used in previous years to keep the lot available for Fairview branch and theatre users.

COMMENTS

Commuters, area residents and shopping mall users are the main groups of people who may want to park in the library lot without using the library. These groups generally wish to access the library lot before 9:30 a.m. or overnight when free parking at the mall is not available. A gate controlling entry to the lot when the library and theatre are closed is the most effective way of preventing these groups from using library parking spaces.

Another group of people parking in the Library lot but not using the library are people visiting the medical building next door. They are parking at the library to avoid paying in the medical building lot. While a few of these people may arrive before library hours, most of the issues arise in the morning, after the library has opened but before the library lot is filled. Ticketing is effective in supporting parking lot access for library customers during branch open hours.

Two hydraulic traffic gate barriers can be installed at Fairview Branch for a total one-time cost of \$40,000. This includes equipment, installation, electrical wiring/breakers hook-up underground, opening and closing systems, protective bollards and landscaping. This work will be completed first quarter 2014 as part of the Facilities operating budget. With the installation of gates, there will be a reduced need for security for ticketing, resulting in an annual savings of \$9,400.

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SIGNATURE

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