



## STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

### Update: 400 Lawrence Manor and 404 East York Community Bus Route Extensions

<b>Date:</b>	July 12, 2017
<b>To:</b>	TTC Board
<b>From:</b>	Chief Executive Officer

#### Summary

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At the March 22, 2017 meeting, the Board approved a pilot project to extend the 400 LAWRENCE MANOR and 404 EAST YORK Community Bus routes. Further public consultation has taken place, and operational and stop level reviews have now determined that adjustments to the initial concept route extensions are required to effectively operate the proposed routes. Staff are recommending minor route changes to ensure that suitable stop locations are provided and that a reliable service can be operated. The changes will enable two additional seniors residences to be served on 400 LAWRENCE MANOR, and one additional community centre on 404 EAST YORK. Board approval is required as community bus service would be operated on streets that do not currently have fixed route transit service.

#### Recommendations

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**It is recommended that the Board:**

1. Approve modifications to the two community bus pilot project routes, 400 LAWRENCE MANOR and 404 EAST YORK, as detailed in this report, effective September 5, 2017.

#### Financial Impact

There will be no funding impact from the route modifications proposed in this report. The estimated reduction in net operating costs from this pilot project remains at \$491,000, as identified in the March 22, 2017 TTC Board Report.

#### Decision History

On March 22, 2017, the Board approved new community bus service standards, as well as a nine-month pilot project on routes 400 LAWRENCE MANOR and 404 EAST YORK.

## **Accessibility/Equity Matters**

The minor route adjustments described in this report will improve access to community bus service by serving more destinations when compared to the route approved by the Board in March – two additional seniors residences on 400 LAWRENCE MANOR, and one additional community centre on 404 EAST YORK – and will help support reliable service on these routes.

## **Issue Background**

Further operational and stop level assessments have determined that adjustments are required to effectively operate the concept routes proposed in the March 22, 2017 report. Additionally, public consultation to gain customer feedback on the community bus routes took place in April 2017 as part of the Wheel-Trans Transformation public meetings, and in May 2017 at the People in Motion show. A request was also received from Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation to stop at nearby community centres, where possible. Minor route adjustments as detailed below are planned in the Lawrence and Dufferin area on 400 LAWRENCE MANOR and the Queen Street East area on 404 EAST YORK to resolve these operational issues and accommodate feedback. Board approval is required as community bus service would be operated on streets that do not currently have fixed route transit service.

Service on both routes will continue to be operated Monday to Friday (excluding holidays), hourly from approximately 9:30am to 5:30pm, with one additional Wheel-Trans bus added to each route, as approved by the Board in March.

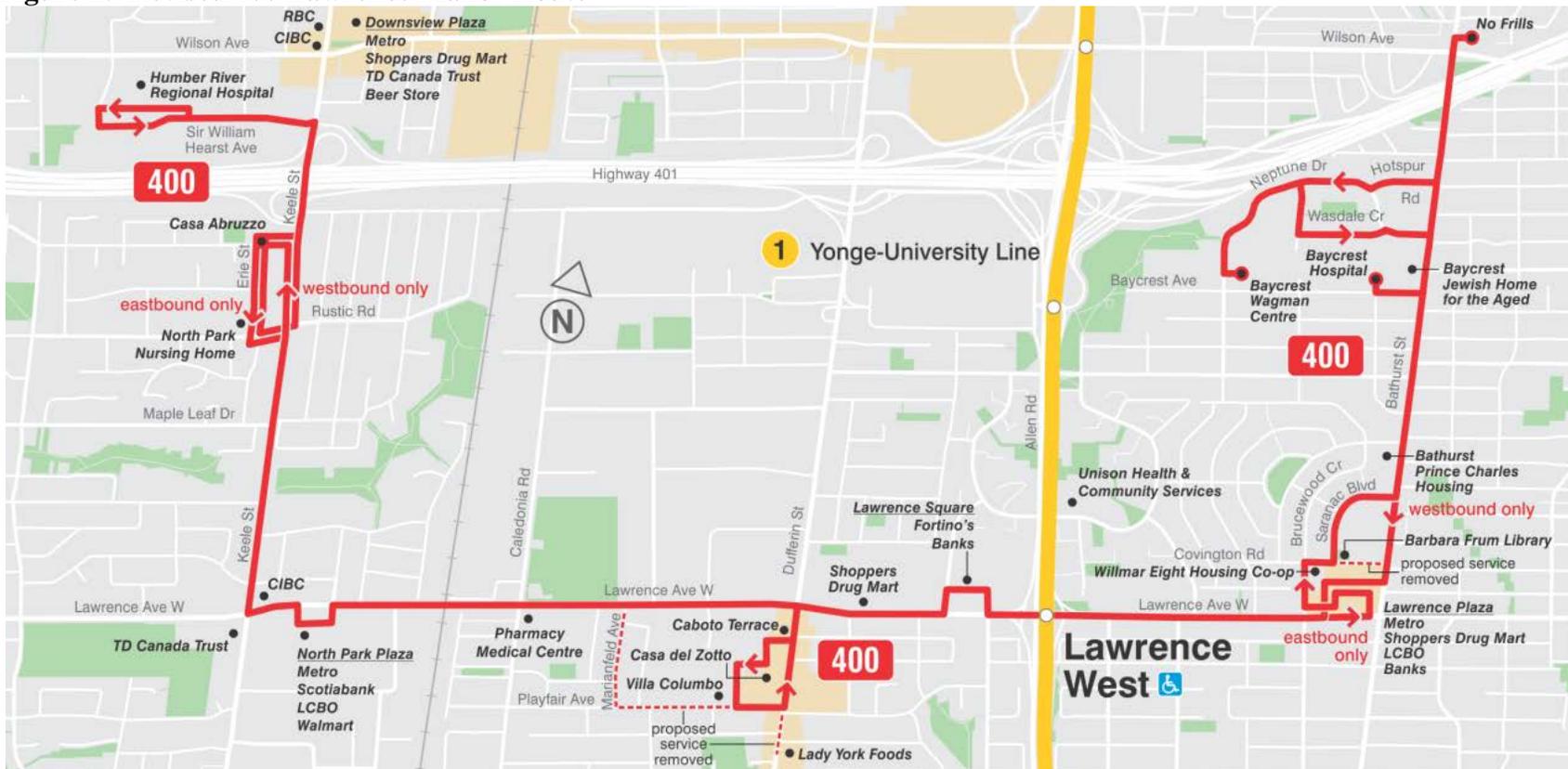
## **Comments**

The following route adjustments will be made to the community bus pilot project routes, 400 LAWRENCE MANOR and 404 EAST YORK, which were originally approved by the Board in March 2017:

### **400 LAWRENCE MANOR**

As shown in Figure 1, service would not be provided on Marianfeld Avenue, Playfair Avenue west of the Villa Columbo seniors residence, or Dufferin Street south of Playfair Avenue, as originally intended, in order to minimize left turns and provide a more suitable bus routing through the Villa Charities properties; however, all major seniors residences will be served in this area, as planned. Service will be continued on Brucewood Crescent and Bathurst Street south of Saranac Boulevard to enable direct service to the Willmar Eight Housing Co-op and 3174 Bathurst St residence and reduce left turns in the Lawrence Plaza area.

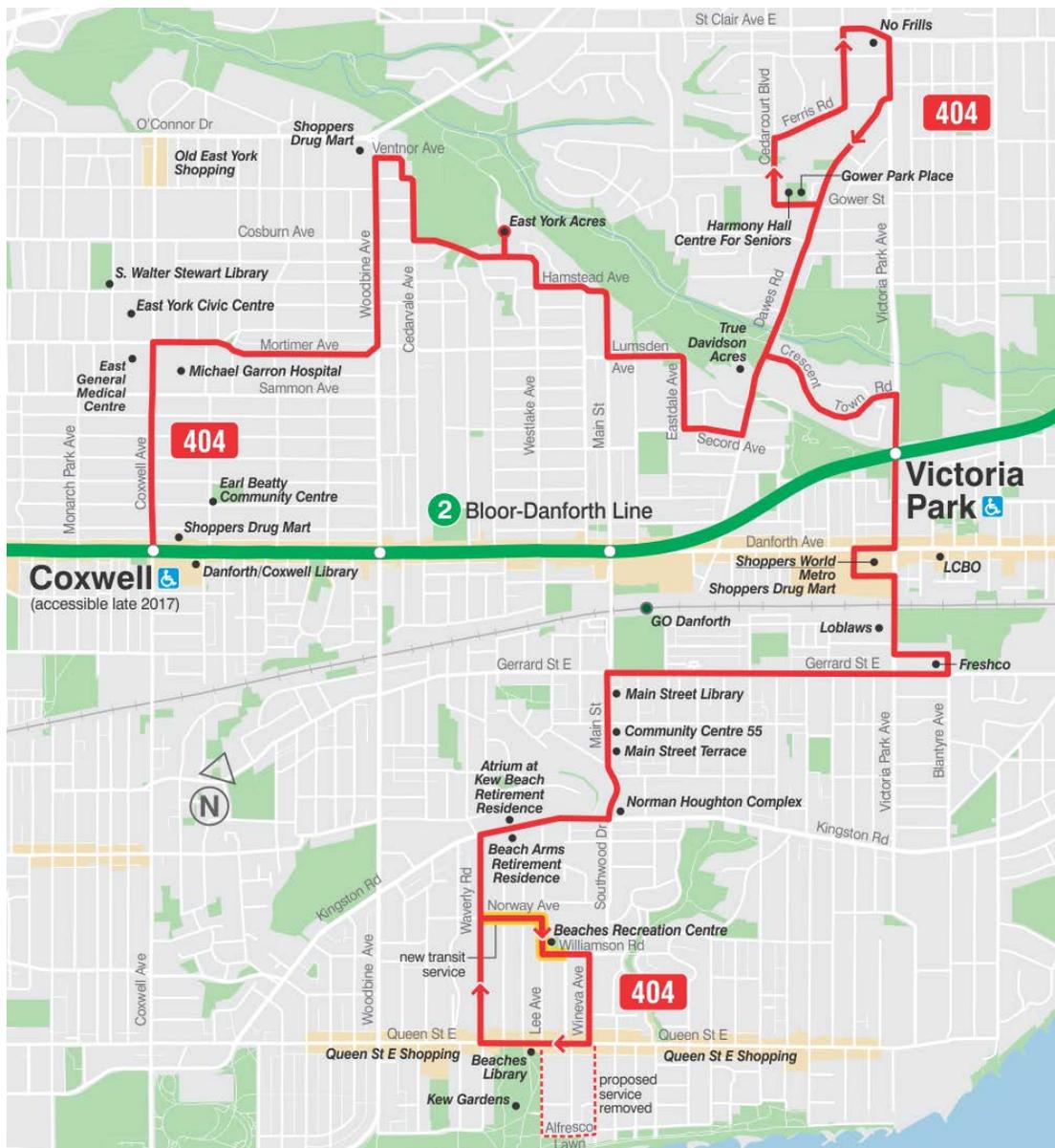
**Figure 1: Revised 400 Lawrence Manor Route**



## 404 EAST YORK

As shown in Figure 2, service would not be provided south of Queen Street East on Wineva Avenue, Alfresco Lawn, and Lee Avenue as originally planned. Further analysis has determined that these streets are not suitable for regularly scheduled transit service due to limited width, parking, winter operational concerns, limited sidewalks and stopping locations. Instead, service would loop via south on Waverly Road, east on Norway Avenue\*, south on Lee Avenue\*, east on Williamson Road\*, south on Wineva Avenue, east on Queen Street East, returning north on Waverly Avenue. New regularly scheduled transit service would be provided on streets marked with an asterisk and accordingly, Board approval is required. This routing would provide new service to the Beaches Recreation Centre.

**Figure 2: Revised 404 East York Route**



## Summary

The minor route changes proposed in this report will facilitate the success of the pilot project by serving additional destinations and helping to support operation of a reliable transit service . Staff will report back in 2018 on the evaluation of the pilot project.

## Contact

J. Darwood Head - Strategy & Service Planning 416-393-4473 [jacqueline.darwood@ttc.ca](mailto:jacqueline.darwood@ttc.ca)

E. Wiggins Head - Wheel-Trans 416-393-3095 [eve.wiggins@ttc.ca](mailto:eve.wiggins@ttc.ca)