
TO: Mayor J. Lehman and Members of Council

FROM: D. Friary
Director of Roads, Parks and Fleet

NOTED: R. J. Forward, MBA, M.Sc., P. Eng.
General Manager of Infrastructure & Growth Management

C. Ladd
Chief Administrative Officer

RE: Dunsmore Lane Parking/ Alternating Parking Prohibition
(File: T00-TR)

DATE: June 5, 2017

This memorandum is to provide additional information regarding the deferred business related to the Dunsmore Lane Parking Prohibition regarding questions raised concerning the status of the walkway on Dunsmore Lane as well as the potential implementation of alternating parking prohibitions on a residential roadway. Alternating parking prohibits parking on one side of the roadway either by time of day or by day of the week, and reversing to the opposing side for the remainder of the duration.

Staff first investigated the ownership of the walkway leading from Dunsmore Lane and Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre (RVH) and confirmed the City own the walkway. However, as part of the OPA and Rezoning application for 27 Gallie Court, RVH agreed to upgrade safety features (which they have done) and also agreed to maintain the walkway in perpetuity. The walkway promotes active transportation and is extremely well used by students walking to Georgian College as well as RVH staff living in the area. Correspondence from RVH can be found in Appendix "A" to this memorandum.

The cost of closing the walkway is estimated to be \$1000 but staff are of the opinion that pedestrians would simply walk around the fence through the naturalized area which causes safety concerns, may damage the naturalized area and would not eliminate the on street parking issues.

Traffic Services staff previously implemented a pilot project for alternating parking along College Crescent from November 2014 until April 2016. This pilot project alternated on-street parking from the 1st to the 15th on one side and the 16th until the end of the month on the opposite side. This pilot was terminated and returned to the previous parking prohibition as there were concerns from both residents and City staff regarding the operation and enforcement of alternating parking prohibitions.

Both the Ward Councillor and City staff conducted a survey after the pilot parking project along College Crescent. The results of both the surveys were in favour of removing the alternating parking and re-implementing the previous parking restrictions.

Residents expressed concerns regarding the need for a "grace period" from Municipal By-law Enforcement during the transition period. While residents were given until 9:00 am to remove their vehicles on the transition dates, this grace period was deemed insufficient by residents. Residents had difficulty switching their vehicles over in the early morning before enforcement began, and felt it was un-reasonable to require the vehicles be moved that early. Residents also stated concerns regarding limitations while away for extended periods of time (i.e. vacation) since vehicles would be legally parked before they left, but would be illegal when they returned.

Staff also received concerns regarding the misinterpretation of the signage as the signs are confusing to read. This type of prohibition is not a uniform application of our existing restrictions and motorists were unsure where and when to park.

There is a higher associated cost to implement alternating parking prohibition, as signage would be required to be installed on both sides of the roadway. Standard parking prohibition only requires signage along one side of the roadway where the parking is prohibited.

The alternating parking pilot project on College Crescent did not negatively affect Municipal Law Enforcement (MLEO) patrol.

As a result of the area resident concerns regarding the confusion and limitations for motorists to be able to relocate their vehicles and staff concerns, the pilot project for alternating parking on College Crescent was discontinued. Therefore, this prohibition was not found to be effective.

The suggestion that staff understood was proposed in one of the deputations concerning the Dunsmore Lane Parking Prohibition was to implement parking prohibitions that alternated between sides of the street during the day (i.e. prohibiting parking from 7:00 am to noon on the even numbered side of the street and then changing the parking prohibition at 12:01 to the odd numbered side of the street) rather than changing the parking prohibition based on parts of the month. Parking prohibitions alternate throughout the day would require MLEO staff to patrol the area multiple times per day, and the current staffing levels are not sufficient to support the multiple patrols per day on this street that would be required for these restrictions.

It is anticipated that should a parking prohibition that alternated between sides of the street during the day be implemented, similar (if not greater) challenges would be experienced as occurred during the College Crescent pilot project.)

It is staff's understanding that the Ward Councillor may have found a compromise in a parking prohibition with a shorter duration that would resolve many of the concerns raised by residents and the individuals providing deputations regarding this matter.

Appendix "A"

Correspondence from the Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre

When RVH filed our OPA and Rezoning application for 27 Gallie, the City and Georgian College were in support to maintain the "Barrie Friendship Trail" open and to make it safer for all. The hospital was asked to not only augment the safety features but also to accept the ongoing maintenance costs in perpetuity for the walkway. We understand there is a large student population who use this trail daily to get to Georgian College. As well we have a significant number of staff who live in the area and commute to work via Bike or walking.

RVH as an organization support the trail to remain open. We also support the City Staff report for a time limit for on street parking. This would require RVH Staff and Patients to park on our campus.

I would also recommend to exclude Statutory Holidays from the Monday to Friday time limit. We run the facility as if it was a weekend and experience low staff and patient volumes then.

Peter R. Osgood

Director, Capital Planning and Redevelopment

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