
TO:	GENERAL COMMITTEE
SUBJECT:	PARKING ACTION PLAN - DUNLOP STREET EAST CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS - MULCASTER STREET TO TORONTO STREET
WARD:	2
PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT:	S. PATTERSON, P. ENG., MANAGER OF CONSTRUCTION EXTENSION 4481
SUBMITTED BY:	B. ARANIYASUNDARAN, P. ENG., PMP, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING
GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL:	A. BOURRIE, RPP, GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL:	M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That the two-hour free parking in the Collier Street Parkade as outlined in Staff Report ENG011-19 be implemented for Phase 1A of the Dunlop Street East Corridor Improvements from Mulcaster Street to Toronto Street and, if successful, the program be implemented for the subsequent phases of the construction project in 2020.
2. That staff in the Engineering Department report back via memorandum with the results of the two-hour free parking strategy at the conclusion of Phase 1A (November, 2019) of the project.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

3. The project design concept focusses on safe pedestrian movements and accessibility throughout the Dunlop Street corridor, as well as ensuring the businesses are better serviced through enhanced lighting, visibility and service opportunities by the inclusion of on-road/boulevard patios on a seasonal basis.
4. The design concept includes pedestrian friendly, aesthetically enhanced streetscape design elements within the boulevard and roadway which include:
 - Retail zone features such as patios;
 - Amenity zone features such as trees, planters, lighting, trash/recycling receptacles;
 - Street furniture;
 - Pay and display parking; and,
 - Flexible zone features allow either parking or pedestrian zone depending on how space is to be utilized.
5. The corridor streetscape has been designed to complement Memorial Square/Meridian Place, to ensure a seamless transition with regards to street furniture such as waste collection bins, benches, street lighting and roadway/walkway surface colours.

-
6. On April 8, 2019, City Council adopted Motion 19-G-076 regarding the Dunlop Street East Corridor Improvements – Mulcaster Street to Toronto Street (Ward 2) as follows:
 - a) That subject to an agreement from the Downtown Barrie Business Association (BIA) Board to contribute \$300,000 of third party funding over a period of ten years, staff proceed to tender the Dunlop Street Corridor Improvements (Toronto Street to Mulcaster Street) in 2019.
 - b) That the BIA Board of Directors be requested to confirm their commitment to participate in the Enhanced Street Streetscape portion of the Dunlop Street work in accordance with the terms approved by City Council by Board resolution no later than April 15, 2019, and that should the BIA Board of Directors choose not to be involved in the project, in accordance with the terms approved by City Council, staff in the Engineering Department be directed to proceed with the tendering process for the project without the Enhanced Streetscape portion being included.
 - c) That staff in the Engineering Department continue to liaise with the BIA in regards to the project schedule; specifically shortening the 2019 Patio Season to allow a construction start date of September 10, 2019.
 - d) That Project EN1167 (Dunlop Street East Corridor Improvements - Toronto Street to Mulcaster Street) timing be advanced, the funding plan be amended, and the spending approval be approved as attached in Appendix "E" to Staff Report ENG003-19.
 7. A memorandum was provided to General Committee on April 15, 2019 providing additional renderings of the Dunlop Street East Corridor Improvements, Mulcaster Street to Toronto Street requested at the April 1, 2019 General Committee meeting.
 8. The tender for this construction contract was published on May 10, 2019 and the tenders closed on June 27, 2019.
 9. On July 9, 2019, City Council adopted Motion 19-A-097 regarding the Dunlop Street East Corridor Improvements (Ward 2) granting the approval of the construction contract to commence as follows:
 - a) That the total budget for Project EN1167 Dunlop Street East Corridor Improvements - Toronto to Mulcaster Street be increased to \$13.1 Million.
 - b) That staff be directed to seek offsetting reductions within 2019 capital projects and report back to General Committee as part of the capital status report and until such time the additional costs be funded temporarily through the Tax Capital Reserve.
 10. The Dunlop Street Corridor Improvement project is proposed to be constructed through the following phasing:
 - a) Potential start for works on Dunlop Street east of Mulcaster Street in August. This schedule is being coordinated with the City's contractor for the Dunlop Street East Corridor Improvements, Arnott Construction, as well as other construction anticipated to occur in the downtown core.
 - b) Phase 1A - Section between east of Mulcaster Street to just east of Owen Street
 - i) Start work between Mulcaster and Owen on September 9, 2019 to stop work by November 8, 2019
 - ii) Complete remaining work early in 2020 if required, as weather permits

- c) Phase 1B – Owen Street intersection culvert, Owen Street Intersection to Bayfield Street and Five Points Intersection
 - i) Start work after completion of Phase 1A
 - d) Phase 2 – Section between Bayfield Street and Toronto Street
 - i) Start work after completion of Phase 1B
- 11. Staff will mitigate impacts on the local businesses and the patio season and have developed the schedule accordingly. However, it is subject to weather conditions and assumptions made, such as a shorter patio season in 2019.
- 12. After construction is complete and during the non-patio season (September through the winter period to May), there would be an increase in on-street parking supply along Dunlop Street of approximately 13 additional spaces. Although some parking spaces are lost during the summer season to patios/retail spaces, there is still ample parking supply within a reasonable walking distance from the corridor, such as in the Collier Street Parkade.
- 13. During construction periods that will occur per the schedule noted above, there will be impacts to the available parking that is directly impacted by the construction. To address impacts as well as mitigating the impacts as a result of the overall construction as a whole, City staff are proposing to offer free parking as detailed below.

ANALYSIS

- 14. Various City departments have developed an action plan to provide supplementary parking for downtown patrons in order to alleviate pressures associated with construction during the Dunlop Street Corridor Improvement project. Through discussions with staff from Traffic & Parking Services, Transit & Parking Strategy and Enforcement Services, feedback from the Downtown Barrie Business Improvement Association (BIA) and advice from the senior management team, it is recommended to provide free parking at the Collier Street Parkade, under the following conditions:
 - a) Free parking will be provided for a maximum of two (2) hours
 - b) Nineteen (19) free parking spaces will be provided on the top floor (P5) of the Collier Street Parkade exclusively
 - c) Free parking will be provided for Phase 1A exclusively (which is anticipated to occur from September 9, 2019 to November 8th, 2019)
 - d) Staff will report back to Council by memorandum at the conclusion of the construction this Fall to provide the results of the free parking program. If the results of providing free parking during the construction of Phase 1A show positive results, the program will continue for the subsequent construction phases in 2020.
- 15. The Collier Street Parkade was selected for the following reasons:
 - a) The parking spaces on the 5th floor would replace the majority of on-street parking spaces that will be unavailable to downtown patrons during the construction of Phase 1A on Dunlop Street between Mulcaster Street and Owen Street.
 - b) Covered parking facility offers value-added service during fall weather.
 - c) Low utilization mitigates potential conflict between existing Collier Street Parkade patrons and the patrons accommodated as a result of the Dunlop construction.

-
- d) Directing downtown patrons to the Collier Street Parkade will increase the public's awareness of the facility and how close it is to the downtown which will promote use of the facility subsequent to the downtown construction.
16. Staff from Traffic & Parking Services group will program the Pay-and-Display machines to issue receipts that explicitly state the 2-hour free parking conditions (see sample receipt in Appendix A). Downtown patrons must obtain this valid receipt and display it in their vehicle in order to qualify for free parking.
17. A Communications Plan will be developed and signage will be posted in the Collier Street Parkade to ensure affected downtown businesses and patrons are aware of this supplementary parking option. This will also be incorporated into the overall Construction Communications Plan that is being developed and will be rolled out prior to any construction occurring on Dunlop Street.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

18. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

ALTERNATIVES

19. Council has the following alternative to the recommendations from staff:

Alternative #1 General Committee could decide not to implement the free parking provisions in the Collier Street Parkade.

This alternative is not recommended as these provisions are one element that will mitigate the impacts of the construction on the surrounding downtown businesses.

FINANCIAL

20. The parking spaces on the 5th floor of the Collier Street Parkade have the potential to develop \$3,000 per month in revenue. While this is a lost opportunity cost, staff do feel that this program will be a positive step toward mitigating construction impacts to the downtown businesses.

LINKAGE TO 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

21. The recommendations included in this Staff Report support the following goals identified in the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan:
- ☒ Growing our economy
 - ☒ Fostering a safe and healthy city
 - ☒ Building strong neighbourhoods
 - ☒ Improving the ability to get around
22. The recommendations are part of the implementation plan for the Dunlop Street Corridor Improvements project which supports Council's Strategic Plan by:
- a) Demonstrating the City's commitment to downtown businesses through the implementation of an innovative solution that provides benefits to both residents and businesses through the implementation of a flexible streetscape design.

-
- b) Encouraging tourism to the area through the enhanced streetscape
 - c) By limiting the municipality's contribution to the streetscape/ beautification component and pursuing third party funding the project to reduce the capital expenditures from upcoming Capital Plans.
 - d) Improving the public realm by providing additional pedestrian space and encouraging more liveliness within the street corridor; helping create a sense of place and community.
 - e) Recognizing the importance of east-west linkages in the downtown area and the importance of Dunlop Street to the downtown transportation network.



Appendix "A"

Sample Receipt

**City of Barrie
2 HRS FREE – P5 ONLY**

Valid:

**TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
UNTIL 12:48 PM**

AMOUNT: \$0.00

ARRIVAL: 09/10/2019 10:48 AM

HST R 0000000

TRN: ABC00000000000

METER ID: COLLIER P5

RECEIPT NR: 00000

AUTH: 000000

*******0000**