

TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: PARKING PROHIBITION ON SOPHIA STREET

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GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: R. J. FORWARD, MBA, M.Sc., P. Eng. *RJF*  
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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: C. LADD *CL*  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

1. That Traffic By-law 80-138, Schedule "A", "No Parking Anytime" be amended by adding the following:

"Sophia Street" North side from Peel Street to Mulcaster Street Anytime"

2. That Traffic By-law 80-138, Schedule "C", "Restricted parking between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays for a limited time during stated hours except on statutory holidays" be amended by adding the following:

"Sophia Street" South side from Peel Street to Mulcaster Street 2 hours"

**PURPOSE & BACKGROUND**

3. Staff Report ENG002-13 reviews current on-street parking along Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street. Based on the results of the review, staff are recommending prohibiting parking on the north side of Sophia Street and implementing a two (2) hour parking limit on the south side of the roadway. The amendments will provide some on-street parking for area residents and still be able to maintain two-way travel.
4. Staff have received concerns regarding parking on Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street as curb side waste collection vehicles are having difficulties servicing this road section.
5. Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street, located within Ward 2, is a two (2) lane 7.0 metre local roadway with a sidewalk on the north side. Please refer to Appendix "A" for a map of the area.
6. On-street parking is currently permitted on both sides of Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street.
7. Overnight on-street parking is prohibited from December 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>, between 12:01 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. for the purpose of snow clearing.

**ANALYSIS**

8. A site visit by City staff revealed that there is a high concentration of on-street parking occurring during the day on Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street causing operational and safety concerns with vehicles entering and exiting driveways and travelling on the roadway. The narrow roadway width does not provide sufficient lane widths in each direction while accommodating on-street parking on both sides.
9. Staff have also received concerns from Environmental Services regarding curb side waste collection as the collection vehicles are unable to maneuver between the vehicles parked on both sides of the roadway and have requested that parking be reviewed to address this concern.
10. A Parking Questionnaire was prepared and mailed to 21 property owners/tenants on Sophia Street to select the preferred option(s). Seven (7) responses were received and the results of the Parking Questionnaire responses are as follows:

SOPHIA STREET ON-STREET PARKING SURVEY	RESPONSES RECEIVED IN FAVOUR	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES
Option A – Leave current on-street parking in place on Sophia Street between Mulcaster Street and Peel Street.	0	0%
Option B - Implement No Parking Anytime on the north side of Sophia Street between Mulcaster Street and Peel Street.	6	60%
Option C - Implement a two (2) hour parking limit 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays on the south side of Sophia Street between Mulcaster Street and Peel Street.	3	30%
Option D - Implement a three (3) hour parking limit 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday excluding statutory holidays on the south side of Sophia Street between Mulcaster Street and Peel Street.	1	10%

11. Residents selected Option B as the preferred option, followed by Option C. Based on the results of the survey and staff observation it is recommended that parking be prohibited on the north side of Sophia Street between Mulcaster Street and Peel Street; and a two (2) hour parking limit Monday to Friday be implemented on Sophia Street between Mulcaster Street and Peel Street. This would allow will for efficient travel movements on Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street and provide short duration on-street parking.
12. Residents expressed concerns when entering or exiting their driveways as vehicles parked on both sides of the roadway limit sight lines. Concerns were also raised regarding the difficulty to reverse out of their driveways with a vehicle parked on the opposite side of the roadway since this roadway is narrow.
13. Staff recommend that Traffic By-law 80-138, Schedule "A", "No Parking Anytime" be amended by adding the following:

"Sophia Street

North side from Peel Street to  
Mulcaster Street

Anytime"

14. Staff recommend that Traffic By-law 80-138, Schedule "C", "Restricted parking between the hours as specified Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays for a limited time during stated hours except on statutory holidays" be amended by adding the following:

<u>"Sophia Street</u>	South side from Peel Street to	2 hours"
	Mulcaster Street	

15. Barrie Police Service and Municipal Law Enforcement do not oppose the recommended motion.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

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

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

17. There are two (2) alternatives available for consideration by General Committee:

**Alternative #1** General Committee could maintain the current parking regulations on Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street.

This alternative is not recommended as vehicles parked on both sides of Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street create operational and safety concerns for vehicles entering and exiting driveways. Current on-street parking also causes operational concerns for waste collection due to limited travel widths.

**Alternative #2** General Committee could decide to implement a parking prohibition entirely on the both sides of Sophia Street between Peel Street and Mulcaster Street.

This alternative is not recommended as residents would like to have parking options.

#### **FINANCIAL**

18. The installation of the No Parking signs proposed to be installed on the north side of Sophia Street would cost approximately \$300 which can be accommodated in the 2013 Business Plan.
19. The installation of Two (2) hour Limit Parking Signs proposed to be installed on the south side of Sophia Street would cost approximately \$300 which can be accommodated in the 2013 Business Plan.

#### **LINKAGE TO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

20. The recommendations included in this Staff Report are not specifically related to the goals identified in the 2010-2014 City Council Strategic Plan.

APPENDIX "A"

