
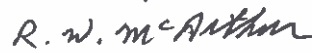
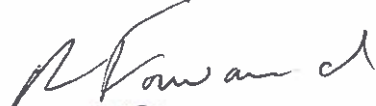



TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL TAXICAB STAND PARKING INVESTIGATION

PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT: J. MACDONALD
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SUBMITTED BY: R. W. MCARTHUR, P. Eng. 
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: R. J. FORWARD, MBA, M. Sc., P. Eng. 
GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE, DEVELOPMENT & CULTURE

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: JON M. BABULIC, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER 

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That By-law 80-138, Schedule "E", "Taxicab Stands" be amended by deleting the following:

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------|--|
| <u>"Dunlop Street East</u> | Between Mulcaster Street and Owen Street | North Side | 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. Seven (7) days a week." |
| <u>"Dunlop Street East</u> | Five (5) parking stalls east of Clapperton Street | North Side | 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. Seven (7) days a week." |
| <u>"Dunlop Street West</u> | Four (4) stalls west of Maple Avenue | North Side | 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. Seven (7) days a week." |

And adding the following:

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------|--|
| <u>"Dunlop Street</u> | Between Mulcaster Street and Mary Street | North Side | 11:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. Seven (7) days a week." |
| <u>"Bayfield Street</u> | Nine (9) stalls south of Ross Street | West Side | 11:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. Seven (7) days a week." |

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

2. On February 7, 2011, City Council adopted Motion 11-G-018 regarding staff investigating the options of increasing taxi pick up and loading areas on Dunlop Street East which stated:

"That staff in the Engineering Department work with the Downtown Improvement Association (BIA) to investigate options to increase the taxi pick up and loading areas on Dunlop Street East and report back to General Committee."

3. There are currently four (4) designated taxicab stand parking stall locations that operate between 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. at the following locations (Please refer to Appendix "A"):

- I. Dunlop Street East on the north side between Mulcaster Street and Owen Street;
- II. Dunlop Street East on the north side, five (5) metered parking stalls east of Clapperton Street;

III. Dunlop Street West on the north side, the first four (4) metered parking stalls west of Maple Avenue; and

IV. Maple Avenue on the east side, four (4) metered stalls north of Simcoe Street.

4. Taxicab stand parking allows for the safe and efficient removal of patrons from the downtown core after hospitality establishments close.
5. Currently, taxicab parking is prohibited from parking within a parking metered zone, whether the prescribed fee for the use is paid, or not, for the purpose of soliciting business.
6. Barrie Police Service and Municipal Law Enforcement enforce the provisions of the Traffic Bylaw 80-138.

ANALYSIS

7. Staff met with the Downtown Barrie BIA to discuss the possibility of extending the current taxicab stand parking along the entire north side of Dunlop Street between Mulcaster Street and Mary Street; and on Bayfield Street. This would allow for the safe and efficient removal of patrons from hospitality establishments in the downtown core.
8. Staff discussed with the Downtown Barrie BIA the possibility of increasing the hours of operation from 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. This change allows patrons to arrive via taxicab and not negatively impact the operation of the roadway due to vehicles parking in designated taxicab stand parking stalls.
9. Barrie Police Service suggested the hours of operation begin at 10:00 p.m. to be able to allow ticketed vehicles to be towed from taxicab stand parking stalls. The current regulation hours of 12:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. does not allow for adequate time for enforcement to issue tickets and tow vehicles.
10. Staff along with the Downtown Barrie BIA reviewed the possibility of increasing the hours of operation to 10:00 p.m.; however, concerns were raised as sidewalk patios are open until 11:00 p.m. and increasing the taxicab stand parking stall to 10:00 p.m. could cause operational concerns and confusion for patrons having to move their vehicles.
11. Staff recommends that the hours of operation be increased from 12:00 a.m. - 4:00 a.m., to 11:00 p.m. - 4:00 a.m. to allow additional time for vehicles to be ticketed and/or towed before patrons begin to leave and to allow patrons to arrive via taxicab and not negatively impact the operation of the roadway.
12. Staff will continue to work with Barrie Police Service, Municipal Law Enforcement, and the Downtown Barrie BIA to review parking concerns in the downtown core.
13. A notification letter was prepared and mailed to the twelve (12) licensed taxicab companies within Barrie, and eighteen (18) hospitality establishments along Dunlop Street to solicit their views regarding the proposal to provide additional taxicab stands along Dunlop Street.
14. Staff received one (1) response from a taxicab company which had concerns with vehicles parked in taxicab stands causing confusion and congestion. They suggested signs indicating "Ticket and Tow Zone" be installed on taxicab stand parking.
15. Staff received one (1) response from a hospitality establishment which favoured extending the hours of operation from 11:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m.

16. Municipal Law Enforcement recommends that proper signage be posted indicating hours of operation and notifying drivers they may be ticketed and/or towed if parked in a designated taxicab stand.
17. Staff recommend an informational sign be installed below the "No Parking Taxicab Stand" signs to clearly identify that vehicles will be ticketed and/or towed if parking in a designated taxicab stand stall during the hours of operation. Please refer to Appendix "B" for an example of the proposed informational sign.
18. The Barrie Police Service, Municipal Law Enforcement staff, and the Downtown Barrie BIA support the proposed increased taxicab stands parking and hours of operations.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

19. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation

ALTERNATIVE

20. The following alternatives are available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could decide not to implement additional taxicab stands on Dunlop Street.

This alternative is not recommended as the taxicab stands proposed on Dunlop Street will efficiently remove patrons from the downtown core after hospitality establishments close.

Alternative #2

General Committee could decide not to increase the hours of operation for taxicab stands on Dunlop Street.

This alternative is not recommended as increasing the hours of operation would allow patrons to arrive via taxicab and not negatively impact the operations of the roadway.

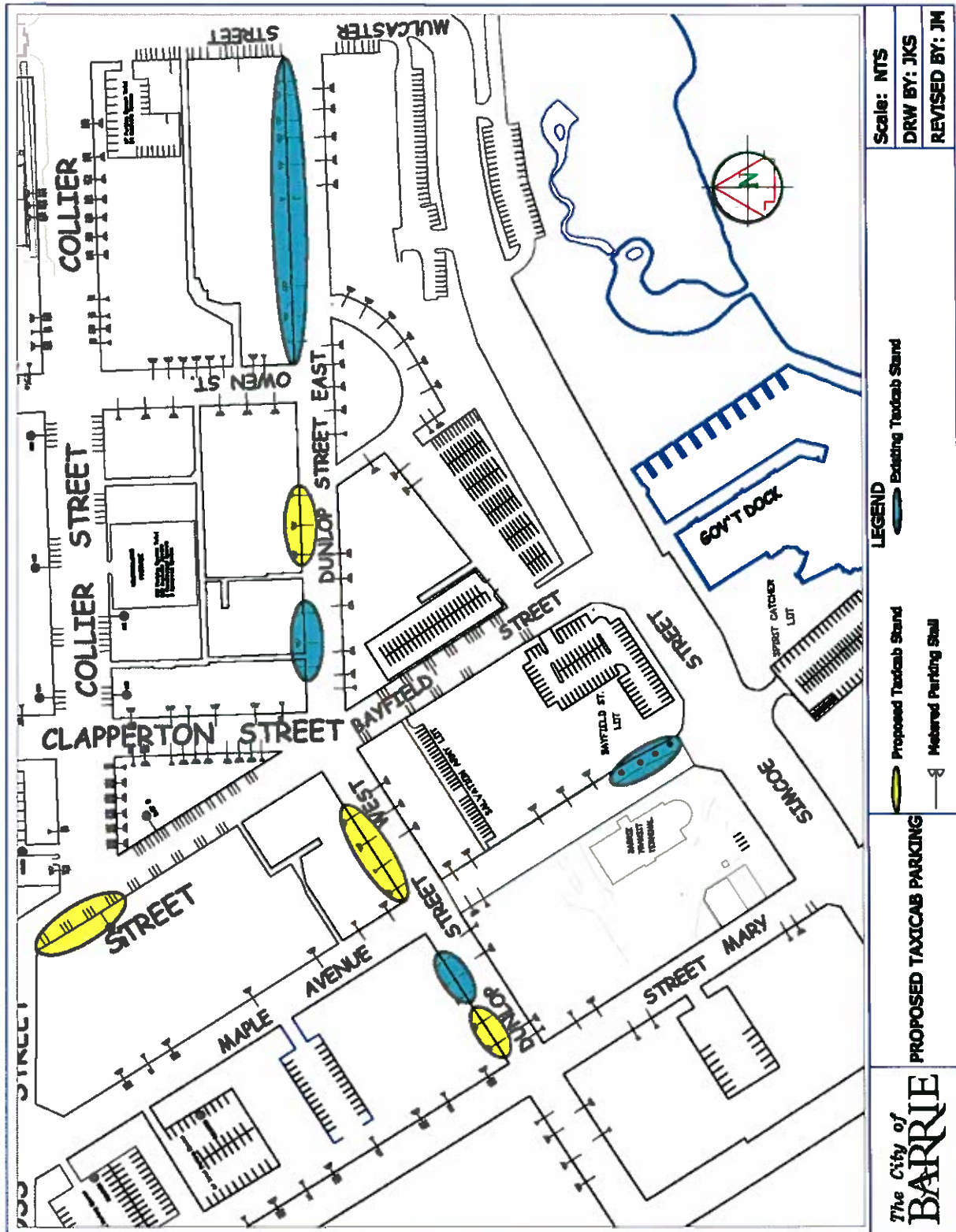
FINANCIAL

21. The installation cost of the "Taxicab Stand" signs and "Ticket and/or Tow Zone" signs are estimated at \$8,550, and can be funded from the 2011 Business Plan.

LINKAGE TO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

22. 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"



APPENDIX "B"

**TICKET
AND/OR
TOW
ZONE
11:00 p.m.
To
4:00 a.m.**