



Report to: Development Services Committee

Meeting Date: October 28, 2019

SUBJECT: Austin Drive Proposed Parking Prohibition (Ward 3)

PREPARED BY: David Porretta, Manager, Traffic Engineering, ext. 2040

REVIEWED BY: Loy Cheah, Senior Manager, Transportation, ext. 4838

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) That the report entitled “Austin Drive Proposed Parking Prohibition (Ward 3),” be received;
- 2) That Schedule “C” of Parking By-law 2005-188 be amended to prohibit parking on the north side of Austin Drive, between Bullock Drive and Couperthwaite Crescent (east intersection); and
- 3) That Schedule “C” of Parking By-law 2005-188 be amended to prohibit parking on the south side of Austin Drive, between Bullock Drive and a point 15 metres west of Karma Road; and
- 4) That Schedule “C” of Parking By-law 2005-188 be amended to rescind the existing parking prohibition on the north side of Austin Drive, between Bullock Drive and the east property limit of block no. 81 (Austin Drive Rugby Club); and
- 5) That the cost of materials and installation for the traffic signs and pavement markings in the amount of \$500 be funded from capital project # 083-5350-19050-005 ‘Traffic Operational Improvements’; and
- 6) That the By-law Enforcement, Licensing & Regulatory Services be directed to enforce the parking prohibition upon installation of the signs and passing of the by-law; and further,
- 7) That staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

PURPOSE:

This report recommends a parking prohibition on the north side of Austin Drive, adjacent to the Austin Drive Rugby Club, to address traffic safety concerns created by ongoing street parking activity. Further, the report recommends an administrative amendment to Parking Bylaw 2005-188 to accurately reflect current “no parking” signs on the south side of Austin Drive between Bullock Drive and Karma Road.

BACKGROUND:

Austin Drive, located north of Highway 7 and between Kennedy Road and Bullock Drive, is a 2-lane residential collector road with an average daily traffic volume of 6,100 vehicles. Within the subject portion of Austin Drive, the Rugby Club is located on the north side.

Austin Drive Park is located along almost the entirety of the south side. East of Karma Road, on the south side of Austin Drive, is a residential condominium complex.

Traffic Engineering staff was contacted by local residents and also by By-law Enforcement, Licensing & Regulatory Services regarding vehicles parked on both sides of Austin Drive, adjacent to the Austin Drive Rugby Club and the Park, creating operational safety concerns.

As per the City's parking by-law, parking is currently prohibited only on the north side of Austin Drive, between Bullock Drive and the eastern property limit of the Rugby Club. An existing parking prohibition is signed on Austin Drive, between Bullock Drive and Karma Road, but the necessary by-law has not been enacted.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

Street parking is impacting traffic operations, adjacent to the Rugby Club

With a road width of 8.25 metres, Austin Drive can accommodate vehicles parked on one side of the street and maintain two-way traffic flow. If vehicles are parked on both sides, the road is effectively reduced to one-lane, creating vehicular conflicts and access issues for emergency vehicles.

Traffic Engineering staff, with the assistance from By-law Enforcement, Licensing & Regulatory Services staff, have confirmed that this activity is occurring on Austin Drive (see Attachment "A"). In particular, vehicles were found to be parking in front of, and near the Rugby Club. The street parking occurs whenever a game is held at the Club. This can be multiple times per week during the summer months, particularly on weekends. The on-street parking activity is the result of the Rugby Club parking lot being filled to capacity. Elsewhere on Austin Drive, parking activity is low and infrequent.

A parking prohibition on the north side of Austin Drive is recommended

If vehicles are prohibited from parking on the north side of Austin Drive in front of the Rugby Club (see Attachment "B"), two-way traffic and street parking on the south side of the street be maintained. This would effectively result in extending the existing parking prohibition on the north side, further west to Couperthwaite Crescent. Additionally, staff recommend amending the parking by-law to formalize and enforce the existing prohibition on the south side, between Karma Road and Bullock Drive. It is not expected that these prohibitions will impact street parking availability on Austin Drive or affect nearby residential properties.

The Rugby Club is supportive of the recommended parking prohibition

City staff have consulted the Rugby Club about the ongoing street parking concerns on Austin Drive. They support the proposed prohibition and will be notifying their members, participants and spectators accordingly if this restriction is approved by Council. Further, the Club will have volunteers to assist with parking management within the on-site facility during their games, and consult with Markville Mall about potentially using the mall parking lot as an overflow parking lot.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The cost of materials and installation of the regulatory signs in the amount of \$500 will be funded from capital project #19050 “Traffic Operational Improvements”. On-going maintenance costs will be managed within the Operations Department’s existing operating budget; therefore, there is no incremental impact to the operating budget. There is no incremental life cycle impact.

HUMAN RESOURCES CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The recommendations identified are intended to improve the safe and efficient movement of vehicles through our transportation network, and to enhance safety of all road users. Therefore, the recommendations align with the City’s Strategic Plan goal of a “Safe & Sustainable Community”.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

By-law Enforcement, Licensing & Regulatory Services have been consulted and support the proposed prohibition.

RECOMMENDED BY:

Brian Lee, P.Eng.
Director, Engineering

Arvin Prasad, MPA, RPP, MCIP
Commissioner, Development Services

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment “A” – On-Street Parking Photographs
Attachment “B” – Austin Drive Parking Restriction Map
Attachment “C” – Proposed By-Law Amendment