

Winter Parking Pilot Program

General Committee

November 9, 2009

Background

- During the winter season, On-street parking during the day and evenings prior to the overnight prohibition of 2:30pm – 6:00am makes many local roads impassable for emergency & service vehicles
- Winters of 2007-08 & 2008-09 had significant snowfall accumulation
- Windrow heights and widths were significant
- How do we ensure accessibility for emergency & service vehicles during the winter months?
- To address this concern, Winter Parking Committee established by Councillor Moretti, consisting of representatives from Fire Services, Operations, Parking Control, Waste Management and Communications & Community Relations Departments

Operations & Safety Concerns

- **Snow clearing & storage**
 - Plows unable to properly clear snow due to parking
 - Some streets exempt from overnight parking restrictions (Cornell, Angus Glen, Cathedraltown)
 - Snow storage is limited in higher density developments, increasing size of windrows
- **Narrowed roads are inaccessible to emergency & service vehicles (eg. fire apparatus, ambulance)**
 - Emergency service vehicles require 3.0 metres minimum travel lane width (6.0m for the entire roadway)
 - Many local streets with cars parked on both sides do not meet this requirement
- **One-way traffic flow**
 - Vehicles parked opposing each other “choke” the road, reducing road width to one lane of travel
 - Two-way traffic flow should be maintained at all times



Typical 6.0 metre cross-section



Typical laneway cross-section (5.5m)



Typical local road cross-section (8.5m)

**Typical 8.0 metre cross-section, with
waste receptacles lining the street**



Typical 8.0 metre cross-section, with Fire Apparatus



Typical 8.0 metre cross-section



Typical 8.0 metre cross-section with Fire Apparatus and on-street parking



Recommendation

- **Implement a town-wide pilot project to restrict parking during 2009-2010 winter season (Nov. 15 – Apr. 15)**
- **Parking shall be restricted on the “even” numbered side of the street only.**
 - Permits parking on “odd” side of the street
 - Restriction applies only to roads where no current restrictions exist
- **Communications plan to educate all Markham residents**
- **Warnings only will be issued and tracked by Parking Control**
 - Restrictions will not be enforced during the pilot project

Communications Plan Proposal

- **Objective is to raise awareness among residents of the health and safety issues associated with restricting access by emergency response vehicles on residential streets**
- **Plan includes, but not limited to the following initiatives:**
 - Markham Life advertisement
 - Town Website
 - Councillors' newsletters & websites
 - Council Proclamation
 - Publications & PSAs
 - Poster Campaign (libraries, community centres, etc.)
 - Tax bill insert
 - EcoMedia Bins
- **Total cost for communication materials: \$2500**
 - Can be accommodated in existing budgets

Parking Control Initiative Proposal

- **Parking Control Officers to issue notices to drivers not in compliance with voluntary prohibition**
 - Sticker to be attached to ticket advising that there is no fine; warning only.
 - Supplemental info card to be provided
- **Officers to track notices, locations, frequency, using existing Parksmart system & current ticket base**
 - Modifications to the system required
 - Dedicated resources to ensure town-wide coverage
- **Staff will report back in spring 2010 on effectiveness**
- **Total cost is approximately \$3,500**
 - \$3,500 communications

Sample Parking Notice

MARKHAM
Provincial Offences Act
PARKING INFRACTION NOTICE
The Corporation of the Town of Markham

Barcode: M0162346

I, Officer No. 50, BELIEVE FROM MY PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE AND CERTIFY THAT ON THE DATE AND TIME SHOWN BELOW, THE OWNER (OR OPERATOR) OF THE VEHICLE UPON WHICH WAS DISPLAYED THE NUMBER PLATE DESCRIBED BELOW, DID COMMIT THE PARKING INFRACTION AS STATED, CONTRARY TO THE TOWN OF MARKHAM BY-LAW. BY-LAW AND SECTION NOTED BELOW.

Date: 23-OCT-2009 Time: 08:52 AM
Plate Number: A1B2C3 Province: ON

Infraction: WINTER PARKING ON EVEN NUMBERED SIDE ONLY ---WARNING ONLY

BY-LAW 2005-188 SECTION 2005-188
Within the Town of Markham
At: NEAR 1 ANY STR

Set Fine: \$0.00

INFORMATION ONLY
Winter Parking Program

Signature of Issuing Officer

Within 15 days of the date noted above, you may choose one of the options on the back of this Notice. If you do not pay the set fine shown above or if you do not deliver a Notice of Intention to appear in court, or if you do not appear for trial, you will be deemed not to dispute this you will be required to pay the set fine plus court costs. An administrative fee is payable if the fine goes into default and the information may be provided to a credit bureau.

CHOOSE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS WITHIN 15 DAYS

OPTION 1 - VOLUNTARY PAYMENT

I DO NOT WISH TO DISPUTE THE CHARGE AND WISH TO MAKE A VOLUNTARY PAYMENT

(signature)

Write the Parking Infraction Number on the front of your cheque or money order and make cheque payable to "Town of Markham". Dishonoured cheques and fines that go into default are subject to administrative fees and may be forwarded to a credit bureau.

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

BY MAIL (CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER ONLY - DO NOT SEND CASH)
Town of Markham Parking Control Division
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario, L3R 9W3

IN PERSON
Cashiers' Office - Town of Markham Civic Centre
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

BY PHONE:
24 hour toll free by calling 1-877-678-8465 using VISA, MasterCard or American Express in Canada and the USA, in the GTA call 905-678-8465 (Nominal processing fee applies - do not submit Parking Infraction Notice)

BY INTERNET:
At www.markham.ca - using VISA, MasterCard or American Express (Nominal processing fee applies - do not submit Parking Infraction Notice)

PARKING CONTROL INFORMATION LINE: 905-477-7000 x2050

OPTION 2 - TRIAL (FIRST ATTENDANCE HEARING) - DO NOT MAIL

I WISH TO APPEAR IN COURT. I UNDERSTAND A TRIAL DATE CANNOT BE SET BY MAIL. WITHIN 15 DAYS, I (OR MY AGENT) WILL BRING THIS NOTICE TO THE TOWN OF MARKHAM OFFICES AND FILE A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPEAR IN COURT.

First Attendance Office (Parking Control Division)
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario, L3R 9W3
Monday to Friday - 12 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

(signature)

Name (please print)

Address, including Postal Code

FAILURE TO PAY THE FINE IMPOSED UPON CONVICTION WILL RESULT IN YOUR ONTARIO VEHICLE PERMIT NOT BEING RENEWED. NO NEW PERMIT WILL BE ISSUED UNTIL THE FINE AND ALL COURT COSTS AND FEES HAVE BEEN PAID.

Resolution

- That the presentation entitled “Winter Parking Pilot Program”, be received;
- And that the report entitled “Winter Parking Pilot Program”, be received;
- And that a town-wide pilot project be initiated for the 2009-2010 winter season (Nov 15 – Apr 15);
- And that the education and communication campaign be initiated as soon as possible;
- And that staff report back in Spring 2010 as to the results of the pilot project.