



Report to: General Committee

Date of Meeting: August 28th 2006

SUBJECT: Parking By-law Administrative Amendments
PREPARED BY: W. Wiles, Manager, By-law Enforcement & Licensing x 4851

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That By-law 2005-188 Parking Control By-law be amended to:

- add a definition of “median” and an offence for parking on one;
- replace all references to “Disabled Person Parking Permit” with “Accessible Parking Permit” and
- incorporate further administrative amendments relevant to the handicapped parking system;
- enable enforcement staff to order abandoned vehicles to be towed.

PURPOSE:

Amendments to By-law 2005-188 Parking Control By-law are required to regulate parking on medians, to ensure that handicapped parking spaces are accessed only by persons with disabilities, to incorporate wording reflective of the new provincial term “Accessible Parking Permit”, and to implement operational improvements with respect to enforcement.

BACKGROUND:

By-law 2005-188 Parking Control By-law does not currently define “median” nor contain a specific provision prohibiting parking on medians. The amendments enable the Town to control parking at these locations.

Effective January 2006, the Ministry of Transportation changed the name of the Disabled Parking Permit Program to the Accessible Parking Permit Program (APP). The amendments align the terminology of the Town’s program with that of the Ministry throughout the By-law.

Handicapped Parking spaces have been designated for use by Ontarians with disabilities. These parking spaces are typically at a premium in most locations and it is imperative that they be used only by those to whom the Ministry of Transportation has issued Accessible Parking Permits. The amendments incorporate the display requirements for such permits contained in Regulation 581 under the Highway Traffic Act, and specify that the permits may be used only by those legally entitled to do so.

The current bylaw requires the presence of a police officer in order to tow vehicles off municipal streets, amendments enable Municipal Law Enforcement Officers and Parking Control Officers without police presence to order that abandoned vehicles or those parked in contravention of the By-law be towed , thus expediting removal of inappropriately parked vehicles which could impede traffic flow or constitute a safety hazard.

OPTIONS/ DISCUSSION:

None

FINANCIAL TEMPLATE:

None

ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

The Province has changed the name of the Disabled Parking Permit Program to the Accessible Parking Permit Program in accordance with the province's commitment to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. The accessibility-related amendments in the By-law reflect this change and will enhance the Town's enforcement capabilities with respect to handicapped parking spaces.

BUSINESS UNITS CONSULTED AND AFFECTED:

Legal

RECOMMENDED

BY:


Sheila Birrell
Town Clerk


Andy Taylor
Commissioner of
Corporate Services