

**Hau, Lucy**

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**Subject:** FW: Amnesty or Worst Offender Status?

-----Original Message-----

From: eileen liasi [mailto:eileenliasi@hotmail.com]

Sent: June 27, 2006 9:12 AM

To: gmckelvey@markham.ca

Cc: jheath@markham.ca

Subject: Amnesty or Worst Offender Status?

Overnight On-Street Parking Townwide

In light of the Working Group report and the unanimous recommendation against instituting overnight on-street parking townwide, we would like to ask what are the Town's intentions now with regard to this issue.

Worst Offender Category

We would also like to know what the Town's definition of "worst offenders" is. How is a worst offender to be recognised? Is the number of "worst offenders" about the same as that envisioned by the Working Group or is it much larger? Does the "worst offenders" category include all non-compliant driveways under the Revised Bylaw, all 13%, more than 11,600 driveways, by our calculations, or is it a minority of the 5%, a minority of the 4500 driveways, the Working Group (using RECENT TOWN SURVEY DATA) was working under the assumption of, when it was considering the question of amnesty.

Is Violation Of Setback From The Side Lot Line in the Worst Offender Category?

At their final meeting the members of the Working Group arrived at unanimous consensus on the issue of the "worst offenders" category - only a minority of the 4500 non-compliant driveways would be "worst offenders" The impression given was that only excessively paved lots would be considered "worst offender" It was only AFTER THAT FINAL MEETING that the members of the Working Group were advised by email that the non-compliance category would be 13% ( not the 5% figure they had been working with ) if the setback from the side lot line provision was applied. (see Working Group Commentary, section 2) It is our understanding that, to address the setback issue, the Working Group had come up with a minimum 1.5m apron of soft landscaping along the length of the driveway to accomodate concerns such as snow storage, stormwater absorption and aesthetics.

The largest category of non-compliant driveways are the ones which expanded in the most practical direction but unknowingly wrong direction, in ignorance of the setback from the side lot line provision. These comprise over 7000 of the 11,600 non-compliant driveways under the Revised Bylaw. Applying the setback provision rather than the Working Group's minimum soft apron provision adds 7000 more driveways to the non-compliant category than is necessary.

In light of the Working Group's general recognition that the vast majority of non-compliant driveways were constructed with proper motives, and in view of the fact that our driveway widths are modest, well under the maximum allowable width and our soft landscaping is over 50%, providing more than ample space for snow storage, stormwater absorption and aesthetics, we would like to know whether, due to expanding within the setback, we are considered "worst offenders" or not, and, if we are, by which of the listed concerns are we so condemned.

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