



Town of Newmarket
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Wayne Drive Parking Amendment Staff Report to Council

Report Number: 2019-94

Department(s): Engineering Services

Author(s): M. Kryzanowski, Manager Transportation Services

Meeting Date: October 15, 2019

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled Wayne Drive Parking Amendment dated October 15, 2019 be received; and,
2. That the parking amendments noted in Appendix A be adopted; and,
3. That the Glen Cedar Public School administration and York Region District School Board be notified of the Town Council decision; and,
4. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to amend the Parking Bylaw to change an existing “No Parking” zone on the south side of Wayne Drive (across the street from the school) to a “No Stopping” zone.

Background

At its regular meeting of June 24, 2019, Town Council adopted a recommendation from the Committee of the Whole of June 17, 2019, to refer a petition to staff for review. The petition requested that the Town change the existing “No Parking” zone on the south side of Wayne Drive (across the street from the school), to a “No Stopping” zone.

This change would greatly improve the flow of traffic and the overall site visibility by preventing parents from stopping on the south side of Wayne Drive and having their children cross the street on foot to access the school.

The change would also improve visibility for residents trying to exit their driveways during the busy morning rush hour. It would also ensure that the school crossing guard is fully visible to drivers as well. The change would also improve the flow of school buses at the site.

With this change, parents who still want to drive their children to school can do so by using the drop-off location that exists directly in front of the school on the north side of the road.

Currently, Glen Cedar Public School is a holding school for children from several households in Sharon. This arrangement will last until the Sharon Public School is built and can be occupied. Staff expects that the congestion of vehicles during drop-off and pick-up times will lessen once the students from Sharon can attend school in their own community.

Discussion

Changing the existing “No Parking” zone to “No Stopping” will prevent parents from stopping on the south side of Wayne Drive, particularly around residential driveways. Parking in this area creates traffic flow issues, especially for school buses entering or exiting the site. This type of parking restriction is common to many schools in Newmarket. Restricted parking at schools mitigates traffic flow issues created by parked cars and, at this site, will prevent children from crossing Wayne Drive in front of the school at peak traffic times.

The petitioners requested that the No Parking zone, with restricted times, on the south side of Wayne Drive be amended to No Stopping, with the same restricted times. As well, the petition requested the No Parking signs located between the school driveways be amended to No Stopping. No Stopping in this particular section of Wayne Drive is needed to prevent parked vehicles from blocking visibility for motorists at the driveways, but most importantly, to allow motorists to see the school crossing guard.

This petition met all criteria of the Public Consultation and Support Policy.

Conclusion

It is recommended that the No Parking zone, with restricted time periods on the south side, and the No Parking zone between the driveways on the north side, be amended to No Stopping with the same restricted times.

Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

Well-planned and connected...strategically planning for the future to improve information access and enhance travel to, from, and within Newmarket.

Consultation

The Town consulted the Glen Cedar Public School administration, the parent council, and York Region District School Board (YRDSB) representatives. This Town initiative helps with a broader traffic flow strategy being undertaken by York Region District School Board (YRDSB) at Glen Cedar Public School.

The Town received a petition from the community to initiate Parking Bylaw amendments. The community consisted of 10 households. Seven households were in favour of the change. Therefore, the petition met the minimum number of households required under the Town's Public Consultation and Support Policy to commence the process. As well, 50% of the households responded, and 60% were in favour of the amendments, therefore these Policy requirements were also met.

The Town sent a notice to each household by way of a letter dated July 12, 2019, to confirm the wishes of the community.

All households within the study area will receive a copy of this report and a notice indicating the date and time of the Committee of the Whole at which the matter will be heard. Residents who wish to address the Committee will have the opportunity to do so at that time.

Human Resource Considerations

None

Budget Impact

The operating budget will be impacted by less than \$1,000.00 for the replacement of two speed limit signs.

Attachments

Appendix A – Proposed Parking Bylaw Amendments

Appendix B – Map of Area and proposed changes

Approval

Rachel Prudhomme, Director, Engineering Services

Peter Noehammer, Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services

Contact

For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Mark Kryzanowski, Manager, Transportation Services, at 905-895-5193 extension 2508 or MKryzanowski@newmarket.ca.