



Town of Newmarket
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Rushbrook Drive Parking Review Staff Report to Council

Report Number: 2021-60

Department(s): Engineering Services

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

Meeting Date: September 13, 2021

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled Rushbrook Drive Parking Review dated September 13, 2021 be received; and,
2. That no changes to the parking restrictions on Rushbrook Drive be endorsed at this time; and,
3. That additional No Parking signs be installed around the Narinia Crescent intersection at 9.0 metres distance in accordance with Parking Bylaw 2019-63; and,
4. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

The purpose of the report is to outline the study findings and public consultation for the parking review on Rushbrook Drive, around the intersection with Narinia Crescent.

Background

At the regular meeting on May 10, 2021, Town Council adopted the following recommendation:

That Staff be directed to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of parking restrictions on Rushbrook Drive between house numbers 200 and 212.

Since the study was initiated through a Council request for a specific location, and there was not the benefit of a petition to describe support from households on the street, Town staff looked at a slightly broader study area that included both approaches to the curved section of Rushbrook Drive and the intersection with Narinia Crescent, to determine community opinions and needs. Community input was sought to clarify what the majority of immediately surrounding neighbourhood residents would prefer in terms of parking restrictions for the study area.

Discussion

As noted above, the study area was slightly broadened to take into consideration the households that would be impacted by a change in parking restrictions in the area, the impacts of vehicles entering the curved section, and the vehicle interaction at the Narinia Crescent intersection. Currently, there is a small NO PARKING zone near the walkway on the south side of Rushbrook Drive, west of Narinia Crescent. The Town's Parking Bylaw stipulates that there is no parking allowed within 9.0 metres of any intersection (Bylaw 2019-63, Section 7.1 a), "as amended").

In this parking study, 19 households were contacted by individual mailed letters dated June 23, 2021, requesting the residents' input on the matter. The Town received 11 replies; however, 5 of the replies were confirmed to be from outside of the study area, and 3 replies contained no address to verify their location. As per the Town's policy, only residents who are within the parking study area and who are directly impacted by any changes may comment or provide input. Only 3 responses could be identified as coming from within the study area and as such only 3 were deemed valid. Comments made ranged from "no change" to "parking restrictions on both sides". As a result, there is no conclusive support from the public for any changes to be made.

Residents in the study area will be contacted a second time, to advise them of the findings of the study and to invite more feedback through an invitation to depute at the Committee of the Whole meeting at which this matter will be heard. As a result, all households within the study area will receive a copy of this report and a notice indicating the date and time for an opportunity to provide further comment.

Given that there is no clear public consensus, and a NO PARKING zone already surrounds the intersection on both sides, it is recommended that no additional parking restrictions be implemented in the Bylaw. However, to help alleviate the perception of any issue at this location, it is recommended that NO PARKING signs be installed 9.0 metres from the intersection on both sides of Rushbrook Drive, which includes the immediate vicinity of the curve, to ensure the intersection is clear of parked vehicles.

Conclusion

It is recommended that no additional NO PARKING zones on Rushbrook Drive be implemented in the Bylaw. However, in order to ensure safe operations around the intersection, it is recommended that NO PARKING signs, as per Bylaw 2019-63, section 7.1 a) be installed within 9.0 metres on each side of the intersection, which includes the immediate vicinity of the curve.

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

Town staff reached out to consult with 19 households that would be impacted by any parking changes. A letter (dated June 23, 2021) was mailed to each household requesting the input of local residents. The Town received 11 responses, some from within and some from outside of the study area, and some that did not contain any address.

To further communicate the findings and invite more feedback, 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 meeting 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

Funds for the required signage would come from the Regulatory Signs – Engineering line from the Operating Budget. The cost would be approximately \$600.00 for the required signage. There is sufficient money in this account to cover the cost.

Attachments

None.

Approval

Rachel Prudhomme, M.Sc., P.Eng.,
Director, Engineering Services

Peter Noehammer, P.Eng.,

Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services

Contact

For more information on this report, please contact Mark Kryzanowski, Manager, Transportation Services, at 905-953-5300, extension. 2508 or by email at mkryzanowski@newmarket.ca