



Staff Report for Special Council Meeting

Date of Meeting: March 25, 2020

Report Number: SRCS.20.11

Department: Community Services
Division: Community Standards

Subject: **SRCS.20.11 - Suspension of Overnight Parking Restriction Enforcement and the Residential Temporary Parking Permit Program**

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to temporarily suspend enforcement of overnight parking prohibitions and temporarily cancel the residential temporary parking permit program.

Recommendations:

- a) That enforcement associated with Section 3.7 (o) and (p) of the Parking Regulation By-law No. 402-89, (Municipal Code Section 1116.3.7(o) and 1116.3.7 (p)), being the prohibitions against parking on a highway between the hours of 3 am and 6 am (April to November) or 1 am and 7 am (December to March), be temporarily suspended;
- b) That the residential Temporary Parking Permit program be temporarily cancelled so that residents do not need to obtain a permit to park on streets overnight; and,
- c) That the Commissioner of Community Services be delegated authority to end the above temporary suspensions as appropriate.

Contact Person:

Tracey Steele, Director of Community Standards, Extension 2476

Report Approval:

Submitted by: Darlene Joslin, Acting Commissioner of Community Services

Approved by: Mary-Anne Dempster, Interim City Manager

All reports are electronically reviewed and/or approved by the Division Director, Treasurer (as required), City Solicitor (as required), Commissioner, and City Manager. Details of the reports approval are attached.

Page 2

Background:

In response to the global Covid-19 pandemic, Richmond Hill declared a state of emergency as of noon on March 20, 2020.

In an effort to make it easier for residents of Richmond Hill to stay at home in accordance with government and public health directives, it is recommended that enforcement of the City's overnight parking prohibitions be temporarily ceased.

In association with the cessation of overnight parking enforcement, it is recommended that the City's program for issuance of temporary parking permits be temporarily suspended. It will not be necessary to issue permits for parking on streets overnight if the overnight parking prohibition is not being enforced.

Given that the winter season is coming to an end there will be a limited need for winter operations moving forward, therefore suspension of overnight parking will not likely create a safety issue. In the event of a snow event a Winter Event can still be declared to require that vehicles be moved off the streets.

The Community Standards Division will monitor the evolving situation related to Covid-19 and make a recommendation to the Commissioner of Community Services regarding the reinstatement of enforcement related to overnight parking restrictions. The reinstatement will be broadly communicated to the public via the website and social media when implemented. An initial transition period involving the issuance of warnings, rather than tickets, may also be implemented.

Financial/Staffing/Other Implications:

The fine value associated with the overnight parking offence from December to March is \$75 and from April to November it is \$50. The seasonal difference is intended to reflect the greater safety importance of the regulation in winter when it assists in facilitating more efficient snow removal operations.

In April of 2019, the City issued 593 penalty notices (i.e., tickets) for parking on streets overnight without a permit. In April of 2019, Richmond Hill sold 789 temporary parking permits with a total value of \$3,945.

Therefore, the approximate revenue loss associated with suspension of overnight parking and cancelation of the temporary parking permit sales for the month of April 2020 is approximately \$30,000.

Parking Officers will continue to patrol overnight to enforce parking rules and regulations intended to ensure the safety of City streets.

Page 3

Relationship to the Strategic Plan:

A temporary suspension of overnight parking enforcement and the temporary parking permit program is consistent with the Corporate Strategic Plan strategy to “Respond to the changing needs of the community through adapting services and programs.”

Conclusion:

On March 20, 2020, Richmond Hill declared a state of emergency as a result of the global covid-19 pandemic. As a result, it is recommended that enforcement of the City’s overnight parking prohibitions be temporarily ceased and that the temporary parking permit program be temporarily cancelled.

Attachments:

n/a

Page 4

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Suspension of Overnight Parking Restriction Enforcement and the Residential Parking Permit Program.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Mar 24, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Darlene Joslin - Mar 24, 2020 - 3:10 PM

MaryAnne Dempster - Mar 24, 2020 - 4:03 PM