

## REPORT

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 11, 2012

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**FROM:** Engineering and Construction Department

**DATE:** November 16, 2012

**SUBJECT:** North Oakville On Street Parking Permits

**LOCATION:** North Oakville

**WARD:** Multiple Wards: 4, 5, 6

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### RECOMMENDATION:

That the implementation of the on-street paid parking program for North Oakville, as outlined in the report dated November 16, 2012 from the Engineering and Construction Department, be approved.

### KEY FACTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- The communities of North Oakville have been planned to allow for a permanent on-street paid permit parking program.
- The permit parking areas will be signed "No Parking, 2 am to 6 am, Except by Authorized Permit"
- A monthly permit fee of \$50 is recommended to achieve the objectives of cost recovery and managing demand. This fee has been included in the 2013 budget submission.
- Permit holders will be advised that during significant snowfall events, vehicles parked on the street may be ploughed in and the vehicle operator will be responsible for shoveling their vehicle out.

### BACKGROUND:

As part of the approved Secondary Plan for North Oakville, and to achieve many of the desired sustainability objectives for this area, the communities of North Oakville have been planned to allow on-street parking to a much greater degree than the existing communities south of Dundas Street. A parking strategy for the residential areas in North Oakville was approved by Council in November 2009 as part of the various North Oakville implementation plans.

Residents moving into the various communities of North Oakville are expected to understand their streets will be used for all types of public parking, and specifically,

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that overnight parking will be allowed subject to a paid permit that will be available to residents.

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the details of an on-street paid permit parking program for North Oakville and to seek approval of its implementation for the first communities north of Dundas Street.

### **COMMENT/OPTIONS:**

#### Regulations for Paid On-Street Parking Program:

Permanent on-street overnight parking is currently not permitted in Oakville. Overnight parking is prohibited through the enforcement of the town-wide 3 hour parking limit. In addition, during the winter season between November 15 and April 15, parking is prohibited between 2 am and 6 am to allow for winter control operations.

Temporary parking “consideration” permits are available to allow residents a maximum of 30 days, when their parking needs temporarily exceed their available parking (e.g. overnight visitors) or when their parking is temporarily unavailable (e.g. due to renovation or driveway repair, etc.)

Establishing an overnight on-street parking permit program will require amendments to the current Uniform Traffic By-law. Staff is recommending that the proposed permit parking areas be signed as “No Parking, 2 am to 6 am, except by authorized permit”. This will allow any vehicles with a permit to park overnight. As well, any vehicle with a temporary “consideration” permit will be allowed to park in this area.. Vehicles without permits will be subject to enforcement as per the current 3-hour parking limit and overnight prohibitions.

Although the proposed changes will specifically provide for permit parking between 2 am to 6 am, through program procedures, permit holders will be allowed to park their vehicles longer than the 3 hour parking limit while parked in the signed areas with their permits on display as it would be too onerous for a resident coming home after work to move their vehicle per the 3-hour parking limit. Outside of the 2 am to 6 am time period, vehicles without permits will be allowed to park in the signed areas; however, they will be subject to the 3 hour time limit enforcement.

In order to ensure safe traffic operations, the road system in North Oakville is being designed to incorporate parking. Parking supply will be limited to one side of residential roads and both sides along specific sections of collector roads. Parking will not be allowed on arterial class roads or along residential laneways. In addition, as some parking space for regular 3-hour parking (e.g. guests) and for parking

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consideration permits will be required, not all of the available space will be open to permit holders. Staff will manage appropriate permit levels to ensure adequate space is maintained for all users.

The on-street parking locations along each roadway will not be assigned as reserved spaces, and as such will be available for any vehicles to park within the applicable by-law regulations. Property owners in North Oakville can expect to have vehicles belonging to others parked on the street in front of their homes as a regular, standard occurrence. Permit holders or any other vehicles can access any on-street parking space on a “first come, first served” basis.

### Fees

Allowing residents to park overnight on the street for free throughout the year does not encourage a reduction in vehicle usage for a “transit first” community, and would create too much demand for the limited supply available. Therefore, the residential permit holder will be required to pay a fee to manage supply vs. demand and to ensure the town recovers its costs to operate the program.

To achieve the objectives of cost recovery and managing demand, the parking strategy for the residential areas in North Oakville had suggested a monthly permit fee of \$50. This fee is comparable to the amount charged by a number of other municipalities for on-street parking privileges (refer to Appendix C). Staff is recommending a monthly permit fee of \$50 for on-street parking in North Oakville.

The permit fee shall be reviewed and established annually as part of the regular assessment of rates and fees during the approval of the town’s operating budget. The proposed \$50 fee has been included as part of the 2013 operating budget submission.

### Winter Control Operations

The introduction of an on-street permit program that provides for overnight parking will create some challenges for winter control operations. Snow ploughing of roads typically generates windrows along the side of the road. It is expected that during significant snowfall events, vehicles parked on the street will be ploughed in. It would be extremely costly and time consuming for the town to remove and haul snow away to avoid ploughing vehicles in. It is common in municipalities allowing on-street parking that the vehicle owner/operator is responsible for shoveling their vehicle out. This will be the case in North Oakville also.

This will also mean that these streets will be subject to large amounts of residual snow left on the road once cars have been dug out after the street has already been

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ploughed. Residents of these streets will need to understand that this type of situation goes hand in hand with a year round provision for on-street permit parking. Returning to re-plough a street later would add substantially to the town's operating budget for winter maintenance.

Information to advise permit holders that they will be responsible to shovel their vehicles out after snow storms will be outlined on their permit application and in all communications related to the on-street paid parking program. As well this information will be included in the advertising for the town's winter control program.

#### First Communities to Receive On-Street Paid Parking Program:

Appendices A and B provides maps showing the location of on-street parking in the first residential developments in North Oakville which is the first and second phase of the Woodland Trail Community. The first phase of Woodland Trail has been substantially "built-out" and staff has determined there will be sufficient on-street space for approximately 230 vehicles within this community; this will serve paid permit, regular 3-hour and temporary consideration parking.

As house construction activity within the second phase of Woodland Trail is still ongoing, staff has not yet been able to determine the maximum parking supply that will be available for all users. As the house construction activity nears completion, staff will be able to complete this assessment.

#### Implementation Timeline

Staff is recommending that the on-street paid parking program for North Oakville be implemented effective as of June 1, 2013, starting with Phase 1 and 2 of the Woodland Trail Communities.

Approving the staff recommendation at this time will allow sufficient time to make the necessary by-law amendments, arrange for the parking signage installation, update communications information, and distribute applications for permit issuance starting in June 2013.

In addition, prior to the implementation of the program, a new procedure for on-street paid permits will be developed and provided to Council for consideration. The procedure will outline how the permits will be enforced and the maximum number of permits to be issued within specific communities.

As additional communities come online in North Oakville, staff will implement paid on-street parking based on the recommendation of this report and as per the adopted procedure.

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## **CONSIDERATIONS:**

### **(A) PUBLIC**

The parking strategy for the residential areas in North Oakville was approved by Council in November 2009 as part of the various North Oakville implementation plans. This information is included within the "New Communities of Oakville" booklets distributed to purchasers of new homes in North Oakville.

The town's website will be updated to reflect the on-street paid program for North Oakville with information on how to apply for a permit and the applicable fees, prior to implementation of the program.

Furthermore, as residents move into the new communities in North Oakville, information is being distributed through an overall communication strategy. Information about the on-street paid program for North Oakville will be included with this communication strategy.

### **(B) FINANCIAL**

The North Oakville parking permit fees have been included in the 2013 operating budget submission. Subject to Council's approval of this report, staff will be preparing to implement an on-street paid parking program for North Oakville effective June 1 of 2013, resulting in projected revenue of \$25,000 for 2013, or \$50,000 annually. This revenue is expected to grow as more new developments are built in North Oakville to assist in offsetting the anticipated extra costs for the town to administer the program and to deliver more costly street maintenance services.

### **(C) IMPACT ON OTHER DEPARTMENTS & USERS**

Staff from the traffic engineering division will be asked to make the necessary amendments to the Uniform Traffic By-law to reflect the parking regulations for enforcing permit parking in North Oakville.

The traffic operations division of Roads and Works Operations, with the assistance from the Development Engineering department will coordinate the installation of the necessary signage by the developer to support the permit parking locations in North Oakville.

The works operations division of Roads and Works Operations is responsible for winter maintenance operations. They will need to update their website information to inform residents that they will be responsible for

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snow shoveling parks cars that may be ploughed in during ploughing operations.

**(D) CORPORATE AND/OR DEPARTMENT STRATEGIC GOALS**

This report addresses the corporate strategic goal to:

- continuously improve our programs and services
- be accountable
- be fiscally sustainable

**(E) COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY**

Parking regulations and enforcement strive to control and maintain our roads in safe and orderly manner, in accordance with community expectations for social and economic sustainability.

**APPENDICES:**

- Appendix A – On-street Parking, Woodland Trail Community Phase 1
- Appendix B – On-street Parking, Woodland Trail Community Phase 2
- Appendix C – On-street Parking fee Survey of Various Municipalities

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