

TORONTO STAFF REPORT

August 18, 2006

To: Works Committee

From: General Manager, Transportation Services

Subject: Exemption from On-Street Parking Permit Fees for Motorized Scooters and Motorcycles

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to obtain authority to exempt motorized scooters and motorcycles from on-street permit parking fees.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

Should City Council approve the exemption of on-street permit parking fees to motorized scooters and motorcycles, a minimal reduction in total revenues (about \$2,200.00 annually) is anticipated.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) the City of Toronto's relevant On-Street Permit Parking By-Laws be amended to exempt motorized scooters and motorcycles, as defined by the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, from on-street permit parking fees;
- (2) the City of Toronto's relevant On-Street Permit Parking By-Laws be amended to allow motorized scooters and motorcycles to be parked on a street lawfully designated under the permit parking program, with a valid permit, at an angle, but not more than sixty (60) degrees to the curb and the permit is to be affixed to the handle bar of the motorized scooter or motorcycle with a cable tie; and
- (3) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take whatever action is necessary to implement the foregoing, including the introduction in Council of any Bills that are required.

Background:

City Council, at its meeting of October 26, 27 and 28, 2005, adopted, without amendment, Clause No. 2 of Report 9 of the Works Committee, entitled “Parking for Motorized Scooters and Motorcycles” – Motion J(2). In doing so, among other things, Council directed that the City’s relevant parking by-laws be amended to exempt motorcycles, as defined in the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, from standard parking fees at all on-street meters or parking machines, and allow motorcycles, where on-street parking is lawfully allowed, to park at an angle not exceeding sixty (60) degrees to the curb.

Recently, a number of requests, including through Councillor Paula Fletcher, have been received to review the payment of permit parking fees for motorized scooters.

Comments:

The exemption of motorized scooters and motorcycles from paying the fee at parking meters and pay and display machines, combined with the recent complaints regarding permit fees for motorized scooters and motorcycles prompted Transportation Services staff to examine the feasibility of applying the fee exemption for these vehicles to the on-street permit parking program.

In recent years motorized scooters have increased in popularity and have become increasingly visible on city streets. Motorized scooters and motorcycles are significantly smaller than other vehicles, use far less road space, thus helping to reduce gridlock, and occupy less parking space, when parked at an angle to the curb.

For the same reasons Council exempted these vehicles from paying fees at parking meters and machines, staff feel there is merit in extending this principle to permit parking fees. Currently there are only 18 on-street parking permits issued to motorized scooters and motorcycles.

Conclusion:

In keeping with Council’s exemption of motorized scooters and motorcycles from the payment of parking meter and machine fees on City streets, relevant on-street permit parking by-laws should also be amended to exempt these vehicles from on-street permit parking fees.

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