



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Follow-up Parking Study on Great West Drive

Date:	September 18, 2008
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District
Wards:	Ward 37 – Scarborough Centre
Reference Number:	P:\2008\Cluster B\TRA\Scarborough\sc08070 D08-2911759 Great West Follow-up Parking

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which the Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

This report responds to a request to conduct a follow-up study following the installation of extensive parking regulations on Great West Drive. Staff has confirmed that the parking regulations have created efficient safe two-way traffic on Great West Drive.

Transportation Services installed a “No Parking Anytime” regulation on the east side of Great West Drive and prohibited parking on the west side of Great West Drive between 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

There do not appear to be any side effects to the new parking regulations. Staff have not seen the parking activity spill over onto other area roadways. The follow-up study also reveals the new parking regulations have removed the chronic long term parking activity on Great West Drive.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, Scarborough District, recommends that Scarborough Community Council:

1. Receive this report for information.

Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Further to a concern raised by Councillor Michael Thompson about the lack of parking regulations on Great West Drive, Transportation Services staff reviewed the parking conditions on this roadway. Specifically, the Councillor expressed concerns about the frequency and duration of long term parking observed on Great West Drive and subsequent impacts on the residents and on surrounding industries.

At its meeting of April 8, 2008, Scarborough Community Council adopted Item SC14.25, which recommended weekday day time parking prohibitions along the west side of Great West Drive. By-law No. 296-2008 was enacted as a result.

COMMENTS

Several characteristics describing the subject portion of Great West Drive include:

- Great West Drive is contained within The Dorset Park Employment Community.
- The land use on Great West Drive located between Midwest Road and Ellesmere Service Road, just west of Midland Avenue is mixed - single family/town house dwellings on the east side and industrial/commercial on the west side.
- Great West Drive is a two-lane north-south local road with a speed limit of 50 kilometres per hour and a traffic volume of approximately 2,000 vehicles per day, (vpd). Great West Drive has a pavement width of approximately 8.3 metres.
- Our studies recorded significant amounts of truck traffic on Great West Drive - approximately 20 to 30 % of the total volume consists of light/medium and heavy trucks.

This past summer, Transportation Services installed “No Parking Anytime” signs on the east side and prohibited parking on the west side of Great West Drive between 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday, after By-law No. 296-2008 was enacted.

This created safe and efficient two-way traffic on this roadway. In addition, the “No Parking Anytime” corner restriction was extended northerly on the west side of Great West Drive from Midwest Road in the vicinity of the curve. The extension of the corner restriction has reduced conflicts between turning motorists, parked vehicles, pedestrians and through traffic on this curved section of roadway.

The Parking Regulations have enhanced safety for pedestrians and motorists, while still allowing for occasional parking of visitors to the neighbourhood, in the evening hours and on weekends. The adjacent industries in this area have off-street parking facilities to meet their own demands.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Location Plan – Follow-up Study - Parking Regulations, Great West Drive