



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Rouge Park – Options for Signage and Elimination of Lay-bys on Sewells Road

Date:	October 23, 2008
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Scarborough District
Wards:	Ward 42, Scarborough-Rouge River
Reference Number:	P:\2008\Cluster B\TRA\Scarborough\sc08097

SUMMARY

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

The majority of illegal dumping in the Rouge Park occurs on Sewells Road. There are a number of lay-bys on Sewells Road that provide the “opportunity” for vehicles to park and illegally dump materials on the side of the roadway. Staff are proposing that barrier-type devices be installed to remove the lay-bys which are presently being used to facilitate illegal dumping in the area south of Little Rouge Creek to Old Finch Avenue.

This report also recommends locations for new “No Dumping” signs to replace existing signs in areas of the Rouge Park where illegal dumping occurs.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services, Scarborough District recommends that Scarborough Community Council:

1. Approve the locations for barrier-type devices to eliminate lay-bys on Sewells Road.
2. Approve the locations for new “No Dumping” signs in the Rouge Park.

Financial Impact

The financial cost of installing barrier-type devices on Sewells Road is approximately \$80,000.00 (materials and installation).

The cost of installing new signs in the Rouge Park area is approximately \$3,000.00 (materials and installation). Funding is available in the Transportation Services Operating Budget to accommodate these costs.

DECISION HISTORY

Public Works and Infrastructure Committee at its meeting of June 27, 2008, approved a report entitled “Options to Improve Enforcement and Reduce Instances of Illegal Dumping in the Rouge Park.” Among other recommendations, that report recommended that the General Manager, Transportation Services give consideration to:

- Eliminating lay-bys on Sewells Road which are currently being used as illegal dump sites by the installation of barrier-type devices
- Investigating the feasibility of implementing restrictions on stopping, standing and parking on Sewells Road and on Steeles Avenue East in the vicinity of Sewells Road
- Investigating the feasibility of permanently closing Littles Road
- Closing Littles Road on a temporary basis by installing a gate to prevent unauthorized access to this roadway
- Identifying locations for the erection of new “No Dumping” signs to replace existing signs in areas of the Rouge Park where illegal dumping occurs.

This report deals with issues related to eliminating lay-bys on Sewells Road and for new “No Dumping” signs in the Rouge Park.

The issue of investigating the feasibility of implementing parking restrictions on Sewells Road was before Scarborough Community Council at its meeting on June 10, 2008. The decision from this meeting was to defer consideration of the matter until the Scarborough Community Council meeting in January 2009 to allow the owner of Standard Auto Wreckers time to review options for alternative parking arrangements for their business. Staff intend to report on this issue to the January 13, 2009 Scarborough Community Council meeting.

The temporary closure of Littles Road is the subject of another report on this agenda.

The investigation of the permanent closure of Littles Road is currently in the feasibility stages. Staff anticipate that a report that deals with the permanent closure of this road from Steeles Avenue East to a point approximately 700 metres, south to be before Scarborough Community Council in approximately 6 months.

COMMENTS

Sewells Road – Elimination of Lay-bys

Sewells Road runs south from Steeles Avenue East and connects with Old Finch Avenue. The majority of illegal dumping in the Rouge Park occurs on Sewells Road. There are a number of lay-bys on Sewells Road that provide opportunity for vehicles to park and illegally dump materials on the side of the roadway. Staff believe that the installation of barriers in these areas will help eliminate the opportunity to illegally dump. The cost of installing barrier devices on Sewells Road is approximately \$80,000.00. Funds are available for this installation in the Transportation Services Operating Budget.

The proposed locations for the installation of barrier-type devices are illustrated on Attachment no. 1.

Staff propose to focus on the area south of Little Rouge Creek to Old Finch Avenue since the parking situation in the vicinity of Standard Auto Wreckers will be subject of a separate report to Scarborough Community Council in January 2009.

New “No Dumping” Signs

Transportation Services has surveyed the existing “No Dumping” signs in this area and observed several different types of signs in use, (including those with differing messages, by-law numbers, phone numbers) dating back to the former City of Scarborough. In addition, many of the signs are faded and show signs of damage or vandalism. The general condition of these signs sends a signal to people intent on illegal dumping that this area is neglected and not a high priority. Given this situation, it is necessary to replace existing signs with the new yellow signs, with black lettering. The erection of new “No Dumping” signs to replace existing signs will act as a general deterrent to illegal dumping. City Council has previously approved the format of these signs. Each sign sets out the maximum fines for illegal dumping and includes a reference to the existing by-law. The approximate cost of a new sign, including installation, is approximately \$150.00, with the total cost of all signs anticipated to be in the order of \$3,000.00.

The proposed locations for the installation of new “No Dumping” signs are illustrated on Attachment no. 2.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed locations for the installation of barrier-type devices
2. Proposed locations for the installation of new “No Dumping” signs