



**STAFF REPORT
ACTION REQUIRED**

Parking regulations – Old Park Road

Date:	July 12, 2010
To:	Toronto and East York Community Council
From:	Director, Transportation Services, Toronto and East York District
Ward:	St. Paul’s, Ward 21
Report Number:	Ts10112te.top.doc

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is requesting authority to delineate a “Student Pick-up and Drop-off Zone”, with parking allowed for a maximum period of 15 minutes at times when students are being picked up or dropped off at West Preparatory School (No. 70 Ridge Hill Drive), on the west side of Old Park Road, between Elm Ridge Circle and Ridge Hill Drive.

This will provide parents/guardians with the opportunity to park their vehicles for a short period of time to escort their child to or from the school.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Rescind the existing “No Stopping, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday” regulation, on the west side of Old Park Road, from Ridge Hill Drive to the south limit of the C.N.R. belt line railway.
2. Approve parking for a maximum period of 15-minutes from 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., and from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the west side of Old Park Road, from Ridge Hill Drive to the south limit of Elm Ridge Circle.

3. Prohibit stopping from 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the west side of Old Park Road, from Ridge Hill Drive to the south limit of Elm Ridge Circle.
4. Rescind the existing “No Parking at Anytime” regulation on the west side of Old Park Road, from Eglinton Avenue West to Elm Ridge Circle.
5. Prohibit parking at anytime on the west side of Old Park Road, from Eglinton Avenue West to Ridge Hill Drive.

Financial Impact

The cost of installing signs to implement the proposed regulatory changes is about \$800.00. These funds are available within the Transportation Services Division 2010 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

At the request of Councillor Joe Mihevc, on behalf of the West Preparatory School, staff of Transportation Services has reviewed a request to delineate a “Student Pick-up and Drop-off Zone” with short-term parking allowed, on the west side of Old Park Road, adjacent to the east side of the school.

COMMENTS

Current conditions

West Preparatory School (No. 70 Ridge Hill Drive) fronts on Ridge Hill Drive and is bounded by Glenarden Road on the west side and Old Park Road on the east side.

Parking is prohibited at anytime on the north side of Ridge Hill Drive, between Glenarden Road and Old Park Road (fronting the school). Parking is prohibited from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Monday to Friday, and is otherwise allowed for a maximum period of three hours on the south side of the street. Signs are posted identifying a “Student Pick-up and Drop-off Zone” during the 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Monday to Friday period when parking is prohibited on the south side of the street. However, these signs merely delineate the area where motorists can momentarily stop their vehicles to pick-up or drop-off passengers. Stopping a vehicle whether occupied or not in this area for any period of time except when a passenger is getting in or out of the vehicle is considered being unlawfully parked and subject to enforcement.

Parking is prohibited at anytime and stopping is prohibited from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday on the east side of Glenarden Road, from Ridge Hill Drive to Aldburn Road, (adjacent to the west side of the school). Parking is allowed for a maximum period of three hours on the west side of this section of Glenarden Road.

Old Park Road is a local roadway, operating two-way with a maximum posted speed limit of 40 km/h. Northbound and southbound vehicular traffic is separated by a centre median. There is no TTC service on Old Park Road.

On the west side of Old Park Road, (adjacent to the east side of the school property), signs are posted in the field indicating that stopping is prohibited from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, from Ridge Hill Drive to Elm Ridge Circle. Stopping is also prohibited from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, on the east side of the street, from Ridge Hill Drive to Shallmar Boulevard. Parking is permitted for a maximum period of three hours, between Shallmar Boulevard and Elm Ridge Circle.

Investigation

In order to provide parking for parents/guardians wishing to escort children into the school, staff recommend delineating a “Student Pick-up/Drop-off Zone” (SPDZ) on the west side of Old Park Road, (adjacent to the east side of West Preparatory School). Parking would be allowed for a maximum period of 15 minutes from 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m., 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., and from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, in the SPDZ, which will extend on the west side of Old Park Road, from Ridge Hill Drive to the south limit of Elm Ridge Circle.

To ensure that the SPDZ remains clear of parked cars in the daytime off-demand periods and available for parking at the times when parents/guardians are arriving to pick-up/drop-off children at the school, stopping would be prohibited from 9:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., 1:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., and from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. Parking would otherwise be allowed for a maximum period of three hours, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m., Monday to Friday and at all time on weekends.

In regard to Ridge Hill Drive, the current “Student Pick-up and Drop-off Zone” delineated on this street is across the street from the school. A student pick-up and drop-off zone is usually signed on the side of the street adjacent to the school so that children do not have to cross the street. Vehicles may legally stop in this area from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Monday to Friday regardless of whether or not these signs are posted. Since motorists receive no parking benefit from these SPDZ signs and short-term parking opportunity will be provided on Old Park Road if Community Council approves Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 of this report, we will remove the signs for the above-noted pick-up and drop-off zone on Ridge Hill Drive. Since these signs are advisory, no by-law amendment is required.

On a further note, the traffic by-law stipulates that parking is prohibited at anytime on the west side of Old Park Road, between Eglinton Avenue West and Elm Ridge Circle. During the course of our site investigation it was noted that no signs were posted to give effect to the parking prohibition on the section of the west side of Old Park Road, from Ridge Hill Drive to Elm Ridge Circle (identified in the traffic by-law as the south limit of the old C.N.R. belt line railway). Our records do not provide any information as to why these signs are not posted or when they might have been removed.

Complaints have not been received from the community regarding the missing signs. In further reviewing this matter, in consultation with Councillor Mihevc, staff see no operational reason to prohibit parking on the section of Old Park Road from Ridge Hill Drive to Elm Ridge Circle. Therefore, Recommendations 4 and 5, of this report are essentially for “housekeeping” purposes and will bring the by-law into line with the regulations signed in the field.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Peter Noehammer, P.Eng.
Director, Transportation Services

ATTACHMENT

Drawing No. 421G-0078, dated July, 2010

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