

Overnight and Weekend On-street Parking Permit

Date:	March 31, 2011
To:	Public Works and Infrastructure Committee
From:	Acting General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards:	All Wards, excluding Wards 7, 8, 9, 10, 23, 24, 33 and 34
Reference Number:	Pw11050te.row

SUMMARY

On September 25, 2007 Transportation Services launched its first on-line service by making temporary parking permits available through the internet. This service enhancement allows the public 24/7 access to the convenience of obtaining a parking permit for a period of 7 days from their home or office without having to visit a City location.

To accommodate a shorter term visitor parking permit this report seeks approval from City Council to establish 24 and 48 hour Temporary Residential Overnight and Weekend On-street Parking Permit. The introduction of 24 and 48 hour permits will allow "overnighter" and "weekender" visitors to residents on streets designated under the permit parking program access to temporary permits on line 24/7.

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager of Transportation Services recommends that:

1. City Council amend Municipal Code Chapter 925, Permit Parking, by introducing 24 hour and 48 hour temporary residential overnight on-street parking permits effective from the day and time of issuance respectively and generally on the same terms and conditions set out in Municipal Code Chapter Section 925-5M, Temporary Parking Permit, excluding subsection 925-5M(3); and
2. City Council amend Municipal Code Chapter 441, Fees and Charges, to establish the fee of \$8.00 for a 24 hour temporary overnight on-street parking permit and

\$12.00 for a 48 hour temporary overnight on-street parking permit subject to an annual fee increase by the Consumer Price Index.

Financial Impact

The current 7 day temporary permit generated \$2,450,000 in revenue in 2010. The financial implications of the introduction of 24 and 48 hour temporary overnight on-street parking permits are not known at this time, however it is possible that in time revenue may decrease as the demand for the 7 day permit, which is currently the shortest duration available, decreases and shorter term permits increases.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and concurs with the Financial Implications.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The Public Works and Infrastructure Committee at its meeting of March 23, 2011, considered a letter (February 1, 2011) from Councillor Cesar Palacio and a letter (February 2, 2011) from Councillor Paula Fletcher, requesting the feasibility of providing a temporary "overnighter"/"weekender" visitor parking permit as a component of the permit parking online selection taking into consideration technological, fee structure and enforcement issues. Committee referred the communications to the General Manager of Transportation Services for consideration and report back (Item PW2.11) on April 26, 2011.

COMMENTS

The Temporary Residential Overnight On-street Permit Parking Program was first introduced in the area comprising the former City of Toronto in 1993. This program allowed visitors of residents on streets designated under the permit parking program the ability to purchase a 7 day permit subject to space availability. At the time of amalgamation this program expanded to include all streets in the amalgamated City of Toronto authorized under the permit parking program.

In 2007 the City launched its first on-line service by making temporary parking permits available through the internet. This service enhancement now allows the public 24/7 access to the convenience of obtaining a parking permit from their home or office without having to visit a City location. This program has been a tremendous success, both in terms of providing a convenient, efficient service to the public and tapping a revenue stream to the City. In 2006, the year before the permits were available on line, 32,600 were sold, resulting in revenue of approximately \$500,000. In 2010 the public purchased over 118,000 temporary parking permits through this on-line system, generating \$2,100,000 in revenue (of a total 127,000 temporary permits issued and \$2,450,000 revenue).

In consultation with the Toronto Police Service, Parking Enforcement Unit and Information and Technology Division, staff have investigated the feasibility of introducing 12, 24 and 48 hour temporary on-street overnight parking permits.

Given that the permit parking program has 78 different variations of operating hours, the 12 hour permit option would not always cover the permit parking hours posted on street signage and may result in tagging. The 24 and 48 hour permit would alleviate this problem while still providing residents with reasonable short term parking options.

The enforcement of 24 or 48 hour permits is feasible as the current hand-held technology used by the Toronto Police Service, Parking Enforcement Officers, can be adapted to allow the officers access to permit parking records.

The technology which supports the permit parking applications can be modified to incorporate the addition of 24 and 48 hour temporary parking permits. Information and Technology staff confirm summer 2011 as the earliest feasible implementation date (soft launch target July 1, 2011) for computer system modifications.

In assessing potential rates for the proposed new temporary permits, staff was cognisant of the likelihood that a shorter duration permit could impact on the current seven day permit sales. Our review also considered comparable parking rates within the areas where the majority of the streets designated under the permit parking program are located. We found rates of the 145 overnight parking facilities under the jurisdiction of the Toronto Parking Authority to range from \$4.00 to \$8.00 per night. We also note that these proposed new permits will provide a "premium" option for customers. Finally, we have considered potential rates in the context of the fine structure currently in place. The set fine for parking in a permit parking zone without a valid permit is \$30.00.

In order to provide residents and their guests with both accessible and affordable residential short term temporary overnight parking permits, the amounts of \$8.00 for a 24 hour permit and \$12.00 for a 48 hour temporary permit are recommended.

The current fees for residential on-street parking and 7 day visitor permit compared to the new proposed permits are as follows:

Permit Type	Fee	Daily Equivalent Fee
Resident - Priority One No access to off street parking	\$157.80 plus HST (annually)	\$0.43 plus HST
Resident - Priority Two No access to off street parking 2 nd and subsequent vehicle	\$394.44 plus HST (annually)	\$1.08 plus HST
Resident - Priority Three Access to off street parking For 1 st and subsequent vehicles	\$552.24 plus HST (annually)	\$1.51 plus HST
Temporary Parking Permit 7 days	\$18.74 plus HST (7 days)	\$2.68 plus HST
Temporary Parking Permit "Weekender" – proposed	\$12.00 plus HST (48 hours)	\$6.00 plus HST
Temporary Parking Permit "Overnighter" – proposed	\$8.00 plus HST (24 hours)	\$8.00 plus HST

Should these new temporary parking permit options be enacted, it is noted that, like the current 7-day permit, they would not be available in permit parking areas or streets where the resident demand for on-street parking has reached 90%.

Given the success of the on-line permit system, Transportation Services recommends that the Residential Temporary On-street Permit Parking Program be expanded to offer the public further choice by introducing 24 hour and 48 hour permits for their short term parking needs, while maintaining the current 7 day temporary permit.

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SIGNATURE

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