
September 4, 2011

Members, Toronto-East York Community Council
Ros Dyers, Committee Administrator
City of Toronto
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
2nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Dear Committee Members:

Amendment to Chapter 918 – Ward 18 and Ward 21 (South of St. Clair Avenue West) Pilot Project Specific Modifications

Moved by: Councillor Bailão and Councillor Mihevc

SUMMARY:

There are many locations in our Wards where, for a variety of reasons, a "front yard parking pad" exists. Many of these locations have existed longer than the restrictions for front yard parking, and we have received numerous complaints from the current homeowners that these existed prior to the purchase of their homes and they have no mechanism to legalize the spots. In addition, those legal spots, many in very close proximity to the illegal ones, are subject to an annual fee and those owners have expressed resentment at having to pay a yearly fee to use what others may be using, without the annual fee being paid.

The only remedy so far has been to "block off" the parking area via the use of concrete curbstones or some other method. However, the paving remains and there is no benefit to the community by not allowing the pad to be used in a legal fashion.

This motion seeks to rectify this issue, in a "Pilot Program" in order to attempt to correct a long standing wrong. The benefits are that for those people looking to abide by the rules, staff can accommodate the request. When and where approved, these paved areas will utilize a more permeable surface, with the intent being to minimize the surface runoff and create a more pleasing esthetic to the local surroundings.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is requested that City Council amend City of Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 918, Parking on Residential Front Yards and Boulevards, to provide:

(1) that despite §§ 918-5B, the General Manager, Transportation Services, may accept a front yard parking application for front yard parking for residential properties located within the area of the former City of Toronto in Ward 18 or in Ward 21, south of St. Clair Avenue West, where:

(a) the application is to attempt to legalize a front yard parking pad installed prior to January 1, 2011 without permission(s) from the City of Toronto and where the applicant submits proof acceptable to the General Manager, Transportation Services, of the existence prior to January 1, 2011, of the parking pad;

(b) additional ramping is not required or, if additional ramping is required, there is no loss of an on-street permit parking space; and

(c) the property meets all other requirements of chapter 918

(hereinafter referred to as "pilot project pads");

(2) that §§ 918-8C(2) and 918-8C(3) do not apply for a pilot project pad where there is no loss of an on-street permit parking space;

(3) that §§ 918-9D and §§ 918-9E shall not apply to a pilot project pad where additional ramping is not required;

(4) that upon approval of a pilot project pad, the applicant shall remove the existing paving and replace it with a permeable paving consisting of at least 25% open space and which is acceptable to the General Manager, Transportations Services;

(5) that despite §§ 918-21B, where the General Manager, Transportation Services, refuses to accept an application for a pilot project pad, approve the issuance of a pilot project pad or grant permission of a pilot project pad, an applicant may appeal to the applicable community council in accordance with the appeal process set out in §§ 918-21A;

(6) that unless otherwise specified above, the applicant must comply with all other criteria set out in Municipal Code Chapter 918;

(7) that this pilot project shall be effective the date of City Council approval and end at midnight on December 31, 2013.

And that staff be authorized to introduce in Council any bills that may be necessary to give effect thereto.

Sincerely,

Councillor Ana Bailão
Ward 18, City of Toronto

Councillor Joe Mihevc
Ward 21, City of Toronto