Parking Amendment – Newgate Road

Date: August 15, 2012
To: Toronto and East York Community Council
From: Acting Director, Transportation Services Toronto and East York District
Wards: St. Paul's, Ward 21
Reference Number: Ts2012152te.top.doc

SUMMARY

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

Transportation Services is reporting on a request from Councillor Joe Mihevc, on behalf of an area resident to extend the existing "No Parking at Anytime" regulation that is in effect on the east side of Newgate Road, north of Elm Ridge Drive, by an additional 6.0 metres in order to improve sightlines.

The homeowner has advised Councillor Mihevc that his sightlines are obstructed due to the presence of the recently installed hydro vault, in the grassy area adjacent to his driveway. Transportation Services have assessed this request and do not concur that sightlines are obstructed. Also, the proposal would eliminate one additional parking space on Newgate Road.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Transportation Services recommends that Toronto and East York Community Council:

1. Not amend the existing "No Parking at Anytime" regulation that is currently in effect on the east side of Newgate Road, from Elm Ridge Drive to a point 30.1 metres north of Elm Ridge Drive, to include an additional 6.0 metres of parking prohibited area.

Financial Impact

The adoption of the above-noted recommendation will not result in any financial impact. If, however, Toronto and East York Community Council decides that amending the existing "No Parking at Anytime" regulation to include an additional 6.0 metres would be beneficial, the following financial impact will result:
1. The estimated cost for relocating the existing "No Parking at Anytime" sign would be $150.00. Funds in this amount are available within the Transportation Services Division 2012 Operating Budget.

ISSUE BACKGROUND
In 2003, Transportation Services received a request from Councillor Joe Mihevc, on behalf of the owner of No. 122 Elm Ridge Drive, to relocate the signed "No Parking at Anytime" regulation, from a point 15 metres north of Elm Ridge Drive, to a distance further north that would incorporate the homeowner's driveway. We were advised that sightlines were obstructed by vehicles parking within proximity of the driveway.

A site investigation revealed that the situation was similar to what many homeowners with a driveway encounter in the City of Toronto. As well, increasing the "No Parking at Anytime" area would result in the loss of two on-street parking spaces and relocating the sign to the north side of the driveway would require enacting a by-law.

In this regard, we were requested by Councillor Mihevc to report to Community Council on the matter. In adopting the recommendations contained in our report, City Council, at its meeting held on January 27, 28 and 28, 2004, enacted By-law No. 108-2004 (Clause 64, Toronto South Community Council Report No. 1). In doing so, parking was then prohibited at anytime on the east side of Newgate Road, from Elm Ridge Drive to a point 30.1 metres north.

We have now received another request from Councillor Mihevc, on behalf of the same homeowner, who advises that sightlines are once again obstructed. This time, the presence of a new hydro vault on the grassy area adjacent to the driveway is obstructing sightlines, and the homeowner has requested the "No Parking at Anytime" area be increased to a point 6.0 metres further north.

COMMENTS
No. 122 Elm Ridge Drive is situated at the northeast corner of Elm Ridge Drive and Newgate Road. The driveway servicing No. 122 Elm Ridge Drive is approximately 5.8 metres wide and is on the east side of Newgate Road.

Newgate Road operates two-way on a pavement width of 7.3 metres with a maximum speed limit of 40 km/h. Parking is prohibited at anytime on the west side of Newgate Road, between Elm Ridge Drive and Ridelle Avenue.

On the east side of Newgate Road, within the same boundaries, parking is prohibited at anytime from Elm Ridge Drive to a point 30.1 metres north. Parking is otherwise permitted for a maximum period of three hours on the east side of Newgate Road.

A site investigation revealed that sightlines are not compromised by the presence of the hydro vault. Further, if the existing parking prohibition were to be extended, there would be a further loss of one on-street parking space.
Motorists exiting a driveway or laneway onto the public roadway must exercise due caution if there are vehicles parked on the street. The situation at No. 122 Elm Ridge Drive is common throughout the City. The needs of all users of the public highways must be taken into account when introducing parking regulations on a street. A street without on-street parking would provide better sightlines, however, a compromise must be achieved that would satisfy the needs of the residents, visitors and trades people, and maintain an efficient and safe movement of vehicular traffic.

Accordingly, in light of the above, changes to the existing "No Parking at Anytime" regulation are not warranted or recommended.

However, if despite the above-noted findings, Toronto and East York Community Council determines that increasing the "No Parking at Anytime" area by an additional 6.0 metres would be beneficial, it may approve the following:

1. The existing "No Parking at Anytime" regulation on the east side of Newgate Road, from Elm Ridge Drive to a point 30.1 metres north of Elm Ridge Drive, be amended so as to be in effect on the east side of Newgate Road, from Elm Ridge Drive to a point 36.1 metres north of Elm Ridge Drive.

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SIGNATURE
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Acting Director, Transportation Services
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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

(1) Drawing No. 421G-0809, dated August 2012

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