

**Basketball and Hockey Nets on the Public Right of Way
– Supplementary Report**

Date:	July 7, 2016
To:	City Council
From:	General Manager, Transportation Services
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	P:/2016/ClusterB/TRA/NorthYork/cc16069

SUMMARY

Transportation Services is responding to a request from Public Works and Infrastructure Committee on June 20, 2016 for further information on complaints and enforcement for basketball and hockey nets within the public right of way.

Financial Impact

There will be no financial impact from the receipt of this report.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this supplementary report and agrees with the financial impact information.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of June 20, 2016, the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee directed the General Manager, Transportation Services to report directly to City Council providing supplementary information on hockey and ball playing on streets, specifically:

1. Number of 311 calls related to these activities;
2. Number of notices of violation issued for these activities;
3. Number of tickets issued for these activities; and

4. Geographic location and categorization of the complaints and enforcement activities related for these activities.

COMMENTS

Complaints related to basketball and/or hockey nets within the public right of way make up less than 1 % of the total number of complaints that we investigate annually related to encroachments of any kind within the public right of way. Transportation Services has received a total of 111 of these specific type of complaints from January 1 to June 30, 2016, primarily through 311.

As noted in our previous report, Transportation Services staff take the following actions when a basketball or hockey net on the public right of way is the subject of a complaint:

1. Transportation Services staff may elect to remove the item in accordance with Chapter 743 and its obligation to keep City highways in a state of repair that is reasonable in the circumstances.
2. Normally, a Transportation Standards Officer knocks on the door of the property owner and asks that it be removed or moved back on to private property. As basketball and hockey nets are portable objects, the owner often complies and the issue is resolved.
3. If there is no answer or if the property owner refuses, a "Notice of Violation" is left at the address which advises of the unauthorized encroachment on the right of way, requests that the equipment be removed within 14 days, and provides the name and contact information of the Officer.
4. A follow-up inspection is then done by the Officer.
5. If, upon follow-up the equipment has not been removed, arrangements may be made for removal by Transportation Services and all costs pertaining to removal and storage will be charged back to the property owner.

Of the 111 complaints received this year, all have been investigated. In 50 cases (45%), a Notice of Violation was issued to the property owner. Of the total number of complaints, 34 (31%) have been resolved. In other words, the net has been removed after contact with the property owner either personally or through a Notice of Violation. In 2 cases, a basketball net was removed after the process of notification and follow-up inspection were followed. There are 82 cases that have not been resolved. In these cases, we are still in the process of notification, and/or follow-up inspection. There have been no charges laid or tickets issued.

The following table shows the breakdown of complaints related to basketball or hockey nets by Community Council area:

Community Council Area	No. of complaints
1. Toronto and East York	24
2. Etobicoke York	20
3. North York	36
4. Scarborough	31
Total	111

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