

Dear Councillor Perks:

RE: Opposition to On-Street Permit Parking in the Brule Neighbourhood, Ward 4 (Council Item TE5.72)

We are strongly opposed to on-street permit parking on Brule Gardens, Brule Crescent, Brule Trail and Riverside Trail. We ask for your support to amend Council Decision TE5.72 to exclude the streets in the Brule Neighbourhood (as per the April 1, 2019 Report) and to oppose any potential policy changes and/or by-law amendments that would authorize on-street permit parking in the Brule Neighbourhood.

The Brule Neighbourhood consists of Brule Gardens, Brule Crescent, Brule Trail and Riverside Trail in Ward 4 (old Ward 13), High Park-Parkdale. It is an enclosed enclave, comprised of a stable private neighbourhood with a unique character bordered by the Humber Marshes and River to the west and south, a reverse ravine to the east and Bloor Street to the north.

Permit parking is not needed by the residents of the Brule Neighbourhood. The houses have wide lots, large driveways and garages. Implementing permit parking would undermine and be detrimental to the enjoyment and unique character of the Brule Neighbourhood and is contrary to the Official Plan, which promotes the preservation of the shape and feel of the neighbourhood and requires that new developments respect and reinforce the existing physical character of the area. Introducing permit parking in this stable neighbourhood where it is not required or needed is a public action that is not in keeping with the physical character of the Brule Neighbourhood.

The residents of the Brule Neighbourhood, as well as the residents of the old Ward 13, were excluded from the intended original consultation process. The old Ward 13 was not included in the study and consultation plan relating to on-street permit parking, as directed by Council Decision, Item TE27.40. Ward 13 was intentionally excluded from Council's Decision to provide on-street parking. The subsequent amalgamation of Wards 13 and 14 to create Ward 4 has swept old Ward 13 in the implementation of on-street permit parking as an unintended collateral and consequential afterthought or as a matter of expediency without consultation. (The April 1, 2019 Report from the Director, Permits and Enforcement, Transportation Services states that the public consultation is focused on residents in old Wards 14 – 32 and only lists streets in old Wards 14 – 32 to be converted to on-street permit parking.)

Furthermore, the Brule Neighbourhood does not have sidewalks. Permitting on-street permit parking raises safety concerns for residents and their families and creates ambiguity between the legal demarcation of City property and the rights of way for drivers and passengers in parked vehicles accessing private property. Services, such as garbage, recycling and garden waste collection, snow removal and street cleaning would be adversely affected.

For the above reasons, we are opposed to on-street permit parking on Brule Gardens, Brule Crescent, Brule Trail and Riverside Trail in Ward 4. We ask for your support and advocacy on this matter. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Matthew Kunica and Shari Ren
