
TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: NICHOLSON DRIVE PARKING INVESTIGATION

WARD: 6

PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT: J. MACDONALD, C.E.T., SENIOR TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGIST, EXT. 5178

SUBMITTED BY: D. FRIARY, DIRECTOR OF ROADS, PARKS AND FLEET

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: A. BOURRIE, RPP, ACTING GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That Traffic By-law 80-138, Schedule 'D', "Stopping Prohibited" be amended by adding the following:

"Nicholson Drive	West Side	From Summerset Drive to a point 87m south of Trask Drive	8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, September 1 st to July 1 st , Excluding Statutory Holidays."
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PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

2. Staff received concerns from both area residents and the Ward Councillor regarding the need to review the current parking situation along Nicholson Drive in the vicinity of the pedestrian walkway located at the rear of Ferndale Woods Elementary School.
3. Nicholson Drive is a two (2) lane local roadway with a pavement width of 8.5 metres and a sidewalk along the east side which provides a pedestrian connection to the walkway at the rear of Ferndale Woods Elementary School, and has a daily traffic volume of approximately 200 vehicles per day. Please refer to Appendix "A".
4. Currently, parking is permitted along Nicholson Drive between Summerset Drive and Cunningham Drive. Overnight on-street parking is prohibited from December 1st to March 31st, between 12:01 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. for the purpose of winter maintenance.

ANALYSIS

5. A Parking Questionnaire was prepared and mailed to fifty six (56) property owners along Nicholson Street to select a preferred option. Fifteen (15) responses were received and the results of the questionnaire are as follows:

NICHOLSON DRIVE ON-STREET PARKING SURVEY	RESPONSES RECEIVED IN FAVOUR	PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES
Option "A" – Leave the current parking in place on both sides of Nicholson Drive.	1	17%
Option "B" – Implement "No Stopping 8 am to 4 pm, Monday to Friday, September 1 to July 1, excluding Statutory Holidays"	5	83%
Total (Out of 56)	6	11%

6. Staff issued a comment sheet to the Simcoe County District School Board to gather feedback regarding the proposed parking regulations along Nicholson Drive, staff did not receive any comments or concerns.
7. Staff observations and comments from respondents identified the current parking situation poses operational and safety concerns along Nicholson Drive. Currently, pedestrians are crossing the roadway between parked vehicles to access the pedestrian walkway; vehicles are obstructing residential driveways; and parking on both sides of the roadway greatly impedes traffic flow.
8. Staff also conducted observations during drop off/pick up for Ferndale Woods Elementary School along Ferndale Drive and noted there currently is a Kiss "n" Ride which operates during drop off and pick times. It was noted vehicles do queue momentarily on Ferndale Drive, however this queueing does not pose any operational or safety concerns as it is for a very short duration.
9. Staff observed vehicles were also parking on Ferndale Drive South adjacent to the curb to actively load/unload which does not pose any operational or safety concerns as pedestrians are accessing the vehicles directly adjacent to a sidewalk in front to Ferndale Woods Elementary School.
10. Based on feedback area residents and staff observations it is recommended that Traffic By-law 80-138 Schedule "D", "Stopping Prohibited" be amended by adding the following:

<u>"Nicholson Drive</u>	West Side	From Summerset Drive to a point 87m south of Trask Drive	8:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, September 1 st to July 1 st , Excluding Statutory Holidays."
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11. The proposed stopping prohibition along the west side of Nicholson Drive is recommended to prevent parents/guardians from stopping opposite Ferndale Woods Elementary School walkway and pedestrians crossing between parked cars. This will also ensure motorists do not obstruct the residential driveways along the west side of the roadway and ensure safe and efficient travel width.
12. Barrie Police Service, Barrie Fire and Emergency Service and Municipal Law Enforcement staff do not oppose the recommended motion.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

13. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

ALTERNATIVES

14. There are three (3) alternatives available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative 1 General Committee could decide to maintain the current parking on both sides of Nicholson Drive.

This alternative is not recommended as vehicles currently park along both sides of the roadway impeding the residential driveways and two-way travel. As well pedestrians are currently crossing the roadway between parked vehicles which poses operational and safety concerns.

Alternative 2 General Committee could decide to implement “No Stopping 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, September 1st to July 1st, Excluding Statutory Holidays” along the east side of Nicholson Drive Summerset Drive to a point 100 metres south of Trask Drive.

This alternative is not recommended as vehicles parking on the east side of Nicholson Drive do not pose any operational and safety concerns as vehicles are actively loading/unloading adjacent to a sidewalk with a direct connection to the walkway to Ferndale Woods Elementary School. Permitting parking only along the east side of Nicholson Drive does not negatively affecting the operation of the roadway.

Alternative 3 General Committee could decide to implement the “No Stopping Anytime” along the west side of Nicholson Drive from Summerset Drive to a point 87 metres south of Trask Drive.

This alternative is not recommended as the current operational and safety concerns are directly related to drop off/pick times for Ferndale Woods Elementary School, and the recommended motion would still permit evenings and weekend parking for area residents without impeding the operation and safety of the roadway.

FINANCIAL

15. The cost of implementing the proposed parking regulations is approximately \$400 which can be accommodated in the 2019 Business Plan.

LINKAGE TO 2018-2022 STRATEGIC PLAN

16. The recommendation included in this Staff Report support the following goals identified in the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan:
- a) Improving the ability to get around Barrie.
17. The recommended motion will prevent parents/guardians from stopping opposite Ferndale Woods Elementary School walkway and pedestrians crossing between parked cars. This will also ensure motorists do not obstruct the residential driveways along the west side of the roadway and ensure safe and efficient travel width.

APPENDIX "A"

