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**TO:** GENERAL COMMITTEE

**SUBJECT:** GADWALL AVENUE PARKING INVESTIGATION

**WARD:** 9

**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:** R. FORWARD, MBA, M.Sc., P. Eng.  
GENERAL MANAGER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH MANAGEMENT

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

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**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

1. That Traffic By-law 80-138, Schedule 'A', "No Parking Anytime" be amended by adding the following:

"Gadwall Avenue

South and East side between Loon Avenue and Widgeon Street"

**PURPOSE & BACKGROUND**

2. Staff in the Roads, Parks and Fleet Department received motion 17-G-034 regarding the investigation of prohibiting parking along Gadwall Avenue which states:  
  
"That staff in the Roads, Park, and Fleet Department investigate the feasibility of implementing no parking restrictions or alternate parking on Gadwall Avenue and report back to general committee."
3. Gadwall Avenue is a two (2) lane local roadway with a pavement width of 8.5 metres and a sidewalk on the north and west side, and has daily traffic volumes of approximately 500 vehicles per day Please refer to Appendix "A".
4. Currently, parking is prohibited along the inside corner on Gadwall Avenue on the east side of the roadway, please refer to Appendix "A". Overnight on-street parking is prohibited from December 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>, between 12:01 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. for the purpose of winter maintenance.

**ANALYSIS**

5. A Parking Questionnaire was prepared regarding the possible implementation of “No Parking Anytime” along Gadwall Avenue and mailed to one hundred and ten (110) property owners to select a preferred option. Thirty (30) responses were received and the results of the questionnaire are as follows:

<b>GADWALL AVENUE ON-STREET PARKING SURVEY</b>	<b>RESPONSES RECEIVED IN FAVOUR</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES</b>
<b>Option “A”</b> – Maintain the current parking restrictions on Gadwall Avenue	12	40%
<b>Option “B”</b> – Implement ‘No Parking Anytime’ entirely on the South and East sides of Gadwall Avenue between Loon Avenue and Widgeon Street.	14	47%
<b>Option “C”</b> – Implement ‘No Parking Anytime’ entirely on the North and West side of Gadwall Avenue between Loon Avenue and Widgeon Street.	3	10%
<b>Option “D”</b> – Implement alternative ‘No Parking Anytime’ restrictions along both sides of Gadwall Avenue between Loon Avenue and Widgeon Street from the 1 <sup>st</sup> to the 15 <sup>th</sup> of the month, then from the 16 <sup>th</sup> until the end of the month on the opposite side.	1	3%

6. Some questionnaire respondents were concerned with implementing ‘No Parking Anytime’ along the south side of Gadwall Avenue, as they identified potential conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians. Staff have reviewed this concern and the proposed parking prohibition on the south side of Gadwall Avenue will not negatively impact the safety of the existing residents on Gadwall Avenue.
7. Staff reviewed the collision history along Gadwall Avenue and found eleven (11) collisions since January 2005, eight (8) of these collisions were related to vehicles colliding with parked vehicles. This is related to high concentration of vehicles parking on both sides of the roadway reducing the travel width of the roadway, and obstructing ingress and egress of residential driveways.
8. Staff conducted several site visits and noted the majority of the vehicles were parking along the north and west side of Gadwall Avenue, and some concentration along the south and east side of the roadway which was impeding the operation of the roadway, and creating safety concerns.
9. Staff reviewed the existing driveway spacing, roadway geometry, and existing parking restrictions to try and maximize the available on-street parking while ensuring safe and efficient two-way travel, as well as ingress and egress to residential driveways. As a result of the review it was determined both sides of the roadway provide equal available on-street parking.
10. The majority of residents recommended restricting parking to one side of Gadwall Avenue, and the majority of these residents voted in favour of prohibiting parking along the south and east side.

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11. Staff reviewed implementing alternating parking on Gadwall Avenue, however staff do not recommend this as:
- a) During our pilot on College Crescent, this type of approach was confusing to residents and visitors of the street as it was a non-uniform application of our existing parking restrictions and motorists were unsure of when and where to park;
  - b) There is an additional cost to implementing alternating parking prohibitions as signage is required on both sides of the roadway;
  - c) Motorists with intentions of parking legally misinterpreted the signage resulting in parking infractions; and
  - d) Limited support from area residents.
12. As a result of both residential feedback and staffs review, staff recommend that Traffic By-law 80-138, Schedule 'A', "No Parking Anytime" be amended by adding the following:
- |                         |                                                            |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>"Gadwall Avenue"</u> | South and East side between Loon Avenue and Widgeon Street |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
13. The recommended parking prohibition will permit vehicles to park adjacent to the existing sidewalk to safely load/unload vehicles.
14. Barrie Police Service, Barrie Fire and Emergency Service and Municipal Law Enforcement staff do not oppose the recommended motion.

**ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

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

## **ALTERNATIVES**

16. 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 Gadwall Avenue.

This alternative is not recommended as the current parking situation has a history of motorists colliding with parked vehicles, and impedes the operation and safety of the roadway.

**Alternative 2** General Committee could decide to implement “No Parking Anytime” on the north and west side of Gadwall Avenue.

This alternative is not recommended as there was limited support from area residents regarding prohibiting parking along the north and west side of the roadway. This would also force motorists to actively load and unload opposite the sidewalk creating operational and safety concerns.

**Alternative 3** General Committee could decide to implement alternating parking along Gadwall Avenue.

This alternative is not recommended as there was limited support regarding this option for area residents, and this parking prohibition would not be consistent with surrounding neighbourhood.

## **FINANCIAL**

The cost of implementing the proposed parking regulations is approximately \$500 which can be accommodated in the 2017 Business Plan.

## **LINKAGE TO 2014-2018 STRATEGIC PLAN**

17. The recommendations included in this Staff Report are specifically related to goals identified in the 2014-2018 Strategic Plan:

a) Improved Drive Safety

18. The proposed recommendations will ensure the safe and efficient operation of the street and provide safe places for vehicles to park on street adjacent to the existing sidewalk.

APPENDIX "A"

