



TO: GENERAL COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: WINTER MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES – WINTER MAINTENANCE EVENTS

PREPARED BY AND KEY CONTACT: B. Russell, Manager, Municipal Law and Prosecution Services
C. Morton, Manager, Roads and Parks Operations

SUBMITTED BY: I. Peters, Director of Legal Services
D. Friary, Interim Director of Operations 

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: E. Archer, General Manager of Corporate Services 
J. Sales, General Manager of Community Services

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: JON M. BABULIC, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER 

RECOMMENDED MOTION

1. That By-law 2007-209, Section 1, Definitions be amended to add the following:
 - a) "winter maintenance event" – a period of time after March 31 and before December 1 during which the General Manager of Community Services, or his designate, in his or her sole discretion, declares that he/she anticipates weather that is likely to require snow plowing, sanding, salting, direct liquid application, snow removal or other winter maintenance operations."
2. That By-law 2007-209, Section 4, General Regulations be amended by adding the following:
 - a) "4.1 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 4(1) and 4(2), a winter maintenance event may be declared at any time by the General Manager of Community Services, or his designate.
 - (2) Where a winter maintenance event has been declared no person shall park a motor vehicle or permit a motor vehicle to remain parked on any highway between the hours of 12:01 a.m. and 7:00 a.m."
3. That By-law 2007-209, Section 5, Parking Prohibited – Downtown Business Improvement Area Boundaries – Schedule "A" be amended by adding the following:
 - a) "5.1 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 5(3), a winter maintenance event may be declared at any time by the General Manager of Community Services, or his designate.
 - (2) Where a winter maintenance event has been declared no person shall park a motor vehicle or permit a vehicle to remain parked on any highway between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. in the area designated in Schedule "A" to this By-law."
4. That staff be authorized to apply to the Ministry of the Attorney General for a set fine in the amount of \$30.00 (\$20.00 early payment) for offences related to parking of vehicles on streets during a declared winter maintenance event.

PURPOSE & BACKGROUND

5. The purpose of this staff report is to set out specific provisions to be incorporated into By-law 2007-209 to address winter maintenance events occurring between March 31 and December 1 of any year and to authorize the General Manager of Community Services or his designate to declare a winter maintenance event at any time where winter maintenance activities would be required.
6. On March 21, 2011, City Council adopted motion 11-G-068 regarding Overnight Parking – Winter control which reads, in part, as follows:

“...3. That the Operations Department, in consultation with the Legal Services Department develop specific provisions to be incorporated into By-law 2007-209 to address winter maintenance events occurring prior to December 1 or after March 31 and to authorize the General Manager of Community Services or his designate to declare a winter maintenance event at any time where winter maintenance activities would be required and report back to General Committee.”
7. The set fine related to parking offences during the prohibited period of December 1 through March 31 annually is \$30.00.

ANALYSIS

8. The ability to declare a winter maintenance event outside of the designated winter control period of December 1, 2011 to March 31, 2011 is recommended to provide sufficient opportunity to the Operations Department to carry out necessary winter maintenance activities, including snow clearing, salting, sanding, direct liquid application (anti-icing), etc.
9. In addition to a Media Release at the time of the declaration which would be circulated to the various media outlets including but not limited to radio, television and newspaper, the Communications & Intergovernmental Affairs Department will be leveraging the City of Barrie website and its associated tools to provide optimal support for this initiative.
10. It is recommended that By-law 2007-209 be amended to define a Winter maintenance event as “a period of time during which the General Manager of Community Services, or his designate, in his or her sole discretion, declares that he/she anticipates weather that is likely to require snow plowing, sanding/salting, direct liquid application, snow removal or other winter maintenance operations.”
11. It is recommended that By-law 2007-209 be amended to provide the following operational procedures regarding the declaration of a “winter maintenance event”.
 - a) The General Manager of Community Services, or his designate, in his or her sole discretion may declare a “winter maintenance event” at any time that winter maintenance operations are to be carried out in anticipation of, or as a result of winter weather or road conditions including but not limited to snow plowing, sanding/salting, direct liquid application and snow removal.
 - b) A declaration of a “winter maintenance event” shall specify the date on which the event shall commence and the date on which the event shall be deemed to conclude and be made no later than 6:00 p.m. of any day and extend for a period to be declared by the General Manager of Community Services, or his designate.

- c) When declared the winter maintenance event would commence at midnight on the day on which it was declared and continue through to 7:00 a.m., repeating the time frames daily until the expiration of the winter maintenance event, as declared.
- d) Notwithstanding the duration of the event when declared, the General Manager of Community Services, or his designate may conclude such winter maintenance event earlier than or extend the winter maintenance event beyond the original date specified. In either case, further notice will be provided to the public in the same manner as the original declaration.
- e) When a winter maintenance event has been declared, no person shall park a vehicle on any City street between the hours of 12 midnight and 7:00 a.m. and where such vehicle is parked on a street within the geographic boundaries of the Downtown Business Improvement Area, such vehicle shall not be permitted to be parked between the hours of 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- f) When a "winter maintenance event" has been declared, the General Manager of Community Services, or his designate shall ensure that public notification is immediately made by:
 - i) posting the Declaration on the City of Barrie internet website; and,
 - ii) issuing a media Advisory (sample in Appendix "A"); and,
 - iii) giving notice that has a reasonable likelihood of coming to the attention of persons who are affected, as may be deemed reasonable at the time.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

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

ALTERNATIVES

13. There is one alternative available for consideration by General Committee:

Alternative #1

General Committee could limit the provisions of By-law 2007-209 to the period of time specified within the by-law, specifically December 1 to March 31 annually, and not establish a protocol to assist with winter maintenance activities in the shoulder seasons to this time period.

This alternative is not recommended as winter weather conditions, including severe winter weather or road conditions leading into or coming out of the designated period may still occur and require winter maintenance operations.

If a protocol is not established within the by-law to address such occurrences and related enforcement during the shoulder seasons, Operations staff will be faced with challenges of manoeuvring equipment around cars parked on the streets impeding maintenance efforts, prolonging service delivery and/or adding costs.

FINANCIAL

14. No additional costs are anticipated with respect to the issuance of the Declaration which will be communicated to the public by way of a Media Advisory and through the use of the City's website.
15. No additional staff resources will be required for the purpose of enforcement during a declared winter maintenance event in the shoulder seasons.
16. A set fine of \$30.00 (early payment of \$20.00) is recommended for offences related to vehicles parked contrary to the provisions of the by-law during a declared winter maintenance event, which is consistent with the current fine of \$30.00 (early payment of \$20.00) for parking offences during the winter season of December 1 through March 31 annually.

LINKAGE TO 2010-2014 COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

17. The recommendation(s) included in this Staff Report are not specifically related to the goals identified in the 2010-2014 City Council Strategic Plan.

APPENDIX "A"

SAMPLE

MEDIA RELEASE

Declaration of Winter Maintenance Event - Overnight Parking Restriction

(Barrie, ON) A Winter Maintenance Event has been declared commencing at 12 midnight November 25, 2010 and concluding at 11:59 p.m. November 25, 2010.

Effective immediately for the period of the Winter Maintenance Event, the City of Barrie is implementing a Temporary Overnight Parking Restriction to allow winter maintenance operations to be carried out.

No person shall park a vehicle on any City street between the hours of 12 midnight November 25, 2010 to 7:00 a.m. November 25, 2010. Where such vehicle is parked on a street within the geographic boundaries of the Downtown Business Improvement Area, such vehicle shall not be parked on any street between the hours of 3:00 a.m. of November 25, 2010 to 6:00 a.m. November 25, 2010.

The temporary overnight parking restriction is required due to, or in anticipation of, winter weather or road conditions that require streets to be clear of parked cars to facilitate winter maintenance activities such as snow plowing, salting and sanding.

The City may extend this Winter Maintenance Event and Temporary Overnight Parking Restriction beyond the original date specified as weather and road conditions change. In the case of an extension, notice will be provided to the public in the same manner as this Declaration.

Additional information associated with the Winter Maintenance Event Declaration, Overnight Parking Restriction and associated City By-law 2007-209 can be found on the City's website at www.barrie.ca.