

8
NO STOPPING ANYTIME ZONE
DUFFERIN STREET NORTH OF CENTRE STREET
CITY OF VAUGHAN

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, March 19, 2008, from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. A “No Stopping Anytime” zone be established on both sides of Dufferin Street (Y.R. 53), from the north limit of Centre Street (Y.R. 71) to 200 metres north of the north limit of Centre Street (Y.R. 71), in the City of Vaughan.
2. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law.
3. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerk of the City of Vaughan and to the Chief of York Regional Police, for enforcement as their resources permit.

2. PURPOSE

This report implements a “No Stopping Anytime” zone on the east side of Dufferin Street north of Centre Street. This no stopping zone will prohibit vehicles from stopping on the travelled portion of Dufferin Street north of Centre Street and assist by-law staff of the City of Vaughan in enforcement of the no stopping by-law.

3. BACKGROUND

Vehicles stopping on the travelled portion of roadways in close proximity of intersections create safety concerns for pass-by traffic, patrons of commercial establishments, and residents of the area. Vehicles parked in curb lanes can create visibility restrictions for motorists exiting from access points. These vehicles cause conflicts with drivers travelling on these roads and result in traffic safety concerns. In addition to these safety concerns, noise pollution is created by the unnecessary idling of vehicles parked while the occupant is away from the vehicle. Also, during winter months, vehicles parked in live traffic lanes create problems for snow removal. When vehicles are parked in the curb lane, snow cannot be properly cleared from roadways.

“No Stopping Anytime” zones are often implemented on Regional roads in areas where parking of vehicles occurs on a regular and continuing basis. To address the traffic safety concerns in these areas, it is proposed that a “No Stopping Anytime” zone be implemented immediately.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Dufferin Street, north of Centre Street, in the City of Vaughan, (*see Attachment 1*) is an urban four-lane roadway with auxiliary lanes at the intersection. The intersection of Dufferin Street and Centre Street is signalized and is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation. Both Dufferin Street and Centre Street are roadways under the jurisdiction of the Region.

A retail plaza including a coffee shop is located directly on the north-east corner of the intersection. Vehicles, particularly heavy trucks, are often parked in the curb lane of Dufferin Street while their occupants frequent the coffee shop. These parked vehicles impede other drivers travelling northbound on Dufferin Street. Drivers travelling north through the signalized intersection of Dufferin Street and Centre Street are often forced to slow or change lanes to avoid a vehicle stopped in the curb lane. Prohibiting stopping in this area will improve overall safety at the intersection.

City of Vaughan staff frequently receives complaints regarding vehicles parking in this area, and as there are currently no prohibitions in place, it is not possible to enforce parking at this location. In correspondence dated January 10, 2008, the City of Vaughan requested a no stopping or no parking zone be considered for this area. This “No Stopping Anytime” zone will allow staff of the City of Vaughan to enforce parking on Dufferin Street north of Centre Street.

By-law Enforcement

This “No Stopping Anytime” zone will be signed and monitored by the Region with enforcement carried out by the City of Vaughan’s by-law enforcement staff. The Regional Clerk should, therefore, forward this report and the resulting “No Stopping Anytime” by-law to the Clerk of the City of Vaughan, with a request to carry out enforcement of the “No Stopping Anytime” zone.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost associated with manufacturing and installing the “No Stopping Anytime” signs is included within the 2008 Roads Budget. In accordance with the Regional and Provincial Offences Agreements, the City of Vaughan will retain any revenue that is generated by enforcing this prohibition.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Local municipal staff have requested the implementation of this “No Stopping Anytime” regulation. The enforcement of this by-law will be carried out by the by-law enforcement staff of the City of Vaughan. This prohibition will improve safety on Dufferin Street, and within the signalized intersection of Dufferin Street and Centre Street, for commuters and residents of the area. In accordance with the *Provincial Offences Act* for enforcement of Regional by-laws, the revenue will be retained by the local municipality.

7. CONCLUSION

To address traffic safety concerns with respect to vehicles stopping on Dufferin Street north of Centre Street, the implementation of a “No Stopping Anytime” regulation is proposed. The local municipality’s by-law enforcement officers, in accordance with the Regional and Provincial Offences Agreements, will carry out enforcement of this Regional by-law.

The Regional Clerk should, therefore, forward this report and the by-law to the Clerk of the City of Vaughan and to York Regional Police.

For more information on this report, contact Brian Harrison, Director, Operations, Roads Branch at extension 5205 in the Transportation Services Department.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause was included in the agenda for the April 9, 2008 Committee meeting.)