

16

NO PARKING ANYTIME RESTRICTION – YONGE STREET ELGIN MILLS ROAD TO JEFFERSON FOREST DRIVE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, August 24, 2005, from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. A “No Parking Anytime” zone be established on the both sides of Yonge Street (Y.R. 1), from the north limit of Elgin Mills Road (Y.R. 49) to the south limit of Jefferson Forest Drive, in the Town of Richmond Hill.
2. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law.
3. The Regional Clerk forward a copy of this report to the Clerk of the Town of Richmond Hill and to the Chief of York Regional Police.

2. PURPOSE

This report proposes a “No Parking Anytime” zone on the both sides of Yonge Street, from the north limit of Elgin Mills Road to the south limit of Jefferson Forest Drive, to assist Town of Richmond Hill by-law enforcement officers in prohibiting vehicles from parking on the boulevards along Yonge Street. A location plan is provided as *Attachment 1*. A Regional by-law is required under the *Highway Traffic Act* before any such no parking zone can be signed and enforced.

3. BACKGROUND

Concerns have been raised by staff from the Town of Richmond Hill as well as a local Councillor with regards to vehicles parking on the boulevards at commercial establishments along Yonge Street. These vehicles are causing damage to the grass boulevards by creating ruts which pose a potential hazard to pedestrians as well as maintenance staff. Vehicles are also entering and exiting from the boulevards over the curbs causing potential conflicts with drivers travelling on Yonge Street, and resulting in a traffic safety concern.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Yonge Street is a five-lane, undivided arterial roadway that carries an average of 37,400 vehicles per day. The physical characteristics within this area include direct frontage town-homes, condominiums, and commercial establishments with a sidewalk on both sides of the road. The speed limit throughout this section of Yonge Street is 60-km per hour.

At its meeting of May 19, 2005, Regional Council adopted a report of the Commissioner of Transportation and Works on the Regional Parking By-law. This report recommended an amendment to By-law No. R-1102-96-100 to include “boulevard” in the definition of highway. This amendment allows staff to control parking on the road and on the boulevard through the enactment of a No Parking By-law.

Vehicles parked on the boulevards during all times of the day have raised concerns for pedestrians and staff from both the Town of Richmond and York Region. The commercial establishments located on Yonge Street all provide ample parking within their facilities eliminating the need to park vehicles on the boulevards along Yonge Street.

To address the traffic safety concerns in this area, it is proposed that a “No Parking Anytime” zone on both sides of Yonge Street be established, from the north limit of Elgin Mills Road to the south limit of Jefferson Forest Drive. The “No Parking Anytime” zone will be signed and monitored by The Regional Municipality of York with enforcement carried out through the by-law staff for the Town of Richmond Hill. The Regional Clerk should, therefore, forward a copy of this report and the resulting “No Parking Anytime” by-law to the Clerk of the Town of Richmond Hill, with a request to carryout enforcement of the “No Parking Anytime” zone.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The costs associated with the manufacture and installation of the “No Parking Anytime” signs is included within the 2005 Roads Program Budget. In accordance with the Regional and Provincial Offences Agreements, the Town of Richmond Hill will retain any enforcement revenue.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

Town of Richmond Hill staff has been consulted and have agreed to the implementation of a “No Parking Anytime” regulation on Yonge Street. The enforcement of this by-law will be carried out by the by-law enforcement staff of the Town of Richmond Hill. In accordance with the agreement under the *Provincial Offences Act* for enforcement of Regional by-laws, the revenues will be retained by the Town of Richmond Hill.

7. CONCLUSION

To address traffic safety concerns with respect to parked vehicles on the boulevards along Yonge Street, the implementation of a “No Parking Anytime” regulation is proposed on both sides of Yonge Street, from Elgin Mills Road to Jefferson Forest Drive. By-law enforcement staff of the Town of Richmond Hill, in accordance with the Regional and Provincial Offences Agreements, will carry out enforcement of this Regional by-law.

The Regional Clerk should, therefore, forward a copy of this report and the adopted by-law to the Clerk of the Town of Richmond Hill and York Regional Police.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

(The attachment referred to in this clause was included in the agenda for the September 7, 2005 Committee meeting.)