

5
NO STOPPING ANYTIME ZONE
HIGHWAY 11
TOWN OF EAST GWILLIMBURY

The Transportation and Works Committee recommends the adoption of the recommendations contained in the following report, August 1, 2008, from the Commissioner of Transportation Services:

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

1. A “No Stopping Anytime” zone be established on the east side of Highway 11 (Y.R. 1), from approximately 600 metres north of Morning Sideroad to 400 metres south of Bathurst Street, in the Town of East Gwillimbury.
2. The Regional Solicitor prepare the necessary by-law.
3. The Regional Clerk forward this report to the Clerk of the Town of East Gwillimbury and to the Chief of York Regional Police.
4. York Regional Police be requested to assist with the enforcement of this “No Stopping Anytime” zone, as their resources permit.

2. PURPOSE

This report is for the implementation of a “No Stopping Anytime” zone, of approximately 1,500 metres in length, on the east side of Highway 11 north of Morning Sideroad. A Regional by-law is required under the *Highway Traffic Act* before any such no stopping zone can be signed and enforced.

3. BACKGROUND

York Regional Police has expressed concerns with regards to vehicles stopping on the east shoulder along Highway 11 to unload off-road vehicles. These off-road vehicles are entering the lands on the east side of Highway 11 in the vicinity of Holland Landing Airpark, which is a private airport also known as Hare Field. Once the off-road vehicle is unloaded, the transport vehicle and trailer is parked on the shoulder for a long duration causing potential conflicts with drivers travelling on Highway 11 ultimately resulting in a traffic safety concern. Staff of the Town of East Gwillimbury has confirmed this has been an on-going issue for some time.

The lands to the east of Highway 11 are private and people using the trails on these lands are trespassing. This no stopping zone will deter people from unloading off-road vehicles, which illegally access the private property on the east side of Highway 11, by prohibiting vehicles from stopping on the shoulder of Highway 11. In turn, this no stopping zone will assist in preventing trespassing by providing a method to enforce illegally-stopped vehicles.

Vehicles stopping on the travelled portion of roadways can create safety concerns for other traffic. Stopped and parked vehicles can create visibility restrictions for motorists travelling on these roads and result in traffic safety concerns. “No Stopping Anytime” zones are often implemented on Regional roads in areas where parking of vehicles occurs on a regular and continuing basis. This no stopping anytime zone will also restrict vehicles from stopping to unload off-road vehicles. To address the traffic safety concerns in these areas, “No Stopping Anytime” zones are implemented to prohibit this practice and to improve overall safety in the area.

4. ANALYSIS AND OPTIONS

Highway 11, in the Town of East Gwillimbury, is a rural four-lane divided roadway that provides a connecting road between Newmarket and Holland Landing through to Bradford. The speed limit throughout this section of Highway 11 is 80 kilometres-per-hour. On the east side of Highway 11, there is a large forested area with off-road trails frequently used by all terrain and other off-road vehicles.

This forested area is private property and people using this area are trespassing. In discussions with York Regional Police, staff have learned that the owner of the property is concerned with the continued use of this property by trespassers. Police often visit the property to request trespassers leave on a voluntary basis, and advise if they continue to trespass, charges may be laid.

York Regional Police have requested the implementation of an appropriate by-law at this location to prevent the practice of vehicles stopping on the shoulder to unload and park, while the driver of the vehicle uses the trail system. Preventing vehicles from stopping on the shoulder of Highway 11 will assist in reducing the frequency of trespassing on private property. Drivers entering and exiting from their vehicles to unload off-road vehicles are creating conflicts with drivers travelling on Highway 11.

To address the traffic safety concerns in this area, it is proposed that a “No Stopping Anytime” zone be established on the east side of Highway 11, from approximately 600 metres north of Morning Sideroad to 400 metres south of Bathurst Street, in the Town of East Gwillimbury. The “No Stopping Anytime” zone will be signed and monitored by the Region with enforcement carried out through the by-law staff of the Town of East Gwillimbury and York Regional Police. The Regional Clerk should, therefore, forward a

copy of this report and the resulting “No Stopping Anytime” by-law to the Clerk of the Town of East Gwillimbury and the Chief of York Regional Police, 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 can be accommodated within the 2008 Roads Budget. The Town of East Gwillimbury will retain any revenue generated by enforcing this prohibition.

6. LOCAL MUNICIPAL IMPACT

This “No Stopping Anytime” zone will be signed and monitored by the Region. The enforcement of this by-law will be carried out by the by-law enforcement staff of the Town of East Gwillimbury and York Regional Police. This prohibition will improve safety on Highway 11 for motorists travelling in the area. Town of East Gwillimbury staff are in support of the implementation of this prohibition.

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 Highway 11, north of Morning Sideroad near Holland Landing Airpark, the implementation of a “No Stopping Anytime” regulation is proposed. This regulation will also assist in minimizing trespassing on to private property. The local municipality’s by-law enforcement officers, in accordance with the Regional and Provincial Offences Agreements, and York Regional Police, 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 Town of East Gwillimbury and to York Regional Police.

For more information on this report, contact Paul Jankowski, General Manager, Roads, at extension 5901 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 September 3, 2008 Committee meeting.)