



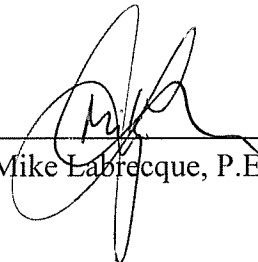
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Halifax Regional Council
June 13, 2006

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:


Mike Labrecque, P.Eng., Director, Transportation & Public Works

DATE: May 12, 2006

SUBJECT: Petition - Non Resident Parking on Walton Drive

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

Item 8.2.1 raised at the May 2, 2006 meeting of Regional Council.

Councillor Mosher submitted a petition at the May 2, 2006 meeting of Regional Council on behalf of residents of Walton Drive requesting that daily non-resident parking on Walton Drive be restricted.

BACKGROUND

Staff had previously been requested to review concerns raised by Councillor Mosher and as well by individual residents over the fact that vehicles are parked all-day, or at least for extended periods of time, along the south side of Walton Dr. These parked vehicles are owned by area employees, who are not provided with adequate parking spaces at their place of work.

DISCUSSION

Our previous reviews have confirmed that vehicles parked along this south side of the street; and potentially parked along both sides of the street for that matter, do not constitute a safety hazard. The street is nine metres wide, it is short; and it has a very low traffic volume which is local in nature. Thus Walton Dr. can safely accommodate two-sided parking. Concerns for the blind crest are addressed by a warning sign; and pedestrian safety is not compromised by the lack of sidewalks due to the low traffic volume. Vehicles parked along this south side do not interfere with driveway access/egress, and they are predominantly located adjacent to vacant property.

Staff is not prepared to implement parking restrictions or limitations on both sides of the street, thereby rendering its entire parking potential unavailable to the public for parking except for short periods of time.

Previous offers made by staff to the residents to have a permissive parking time limit implemented on one side was to prevent long-term parkers from potentially occupying both sides of the street. If implemented, this restriction would have provided a balance of long and short-term parking. Albeit, this proposal would not have addressed the current issue which can best be described as a frustration/annoyance to the local residents.

Staff's position on this issue is in support of our on-street parking policy. Simply put, the policy was developed to allow parking in areas where safety is not compromised. Where parking can be accommodated, the policy is designed to provide a mix of long and short-term parking if demand for same is demonstrated. Thus far, the demand for parking on Walton Dr. does not exceed the supply for even one side of the street.

It is true that residents of other streets in this immediate area have parking limitations on both sides of their street(s). These parking limitations were implemented by previous administrations under a different parking policy. Staff is not about to review any or all of these previously approved parking regulations unless they are supported by a significant change in traffic characteristics on those respective streets; and/or, if requested by way of a petition from the residents.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

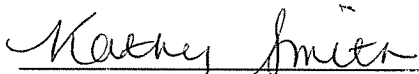
This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

There are no recommended alternatives.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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Financial Review: 
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