

Transportation Standing Committee
June 4, 2014

TO: Chair and Members of Transportation Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Original signed

David Hubley, P.Eng., A/Director, Transportation and Public Works

DATE: March 25, 2014

SUBJECT: Temporary On-Street Parking During Construction

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

On October 2, 2013 (Item 8.1), the Transportation Standing Committee approved a motion for a staff report outlining the establishment of temporary on-street parking for residents who temporarily lose access to their parking due to road and sidewalk construction.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

By-law P-1000 allows residents the opportunity to purchase a residential parking exemption or visitor exemption for the street block in which they reside if parking is controlled on at least one side of the street by an exemptible traffic sign (permitting one hour parking, permitting two hour parking, prohibiting parking for 30 minutes or an hour in the morning and/or the afternoon, or prohibiting parking except by permit).

BACKGROUND

Due to construction on Garden Street during the 2013 season, residents were unable to park on their street, which has exemptible signs. The residents were required to find alternative parking, including but not limited to adjacent and nearby streets. As they were no longer parking on the block of the street on which they reside, as stated in By-Law P-1000, the Residential Parking Exemptions were not valid for parking beyond the limits of the times posted on the signs on the surrounding streets. Hence, some residents received parking tickets.

DISCUSSION

HRM's annual capital construction program impacts many residential streets in order to upgrade them in a safe and timely manner. Due to the nature of construction work, access to residential driveways and/or on-street parking can be limited or restricted at times throughout the project. In 2013 there was an average of 12 projects in each of districts 5, 7, 8 and 9 in which parking was restricted for periods of a day or more. This is typical for most years. Most residents generally understand this requirement and largely accept the inconvenience for a short period in order to have the work done in a timely fashion. As a result, there are very few occurrences of parking related complaints stemming from construction.

Residents are advised several months in advance via a letter from Design & Construction Services that a project will be forthcoming on their street. This letter states that all efforts will be taken to minimize disruptions.

Then, at least two days prior to the commencement of construction, a standard Advisory Notice is distributed to each residence adjacent to the work site by Design & Construction Services, Inspection department. This notice identifies that "*Parking may be restricted on your street which might require that you consider temporary parking arrangements.*"

Each construction contract also includes a clause that requires a contractor to provide notice a day in advance of restricting driveway access: "*Notify residents in writing the day prior to the placement of concrete curb and gutter and/or sidewalk that their driveway will not be accessible for three days after concrete placement.*"

A number of revisions to By-Law P-1000 Respecting On-Street Parking Exemptions and Permits are being developed for consideration by Regional Council. One of the proposed changes would better accommodate residential parking needs while construction inhibits access to on-street parking on a specific block. This proposal would establish approximately 12 residential parking zones in the Regional Centre which would mean that residents possessing residential parking exemptions would be eligible to park anywhere within the zone where they live. Since the By-Law currently requires that holders of residential parking exemptions to park only on the street block where they reside, this change would enable residents with parking exemptions to legally park on nearby streets while construction activity occurs on their block.

The timing for potential revision to By-Law P-1000 is unknown as of the writing of this report. Until that change is made, Design & Construction Services will continue to work closely with residents, advising them in a timely fashion when parking on their street or access to their driveways will be obstructed and advising that alternate short term parking must be found elsewhere.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As this report is only to provide information to the Transportation Standing Committee, no community engagement has taken place or is deemed necessary.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Typical Letter to residents by Design & Construction Services prior to award of the construction contract
2. Advisory Notice delivered to residents at least two days prior to beginning of construction

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

Report Prepared by: Patrick Doyle, Senior Traffic Analyst 490-6133

Original signed

Report Approved by: Taso Koutroulakis, P.Eng., PTOE, Manager, Traffic and Right of Way Services, 490-4816

Original signed

Report Approved by: Bruce Colborne, P.Eng, A/Manager, Design and Construction Services, 490-4896



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Date

Dear Property Owner:

Re: Project (XXX to XXX), Community

The Halifax Regional Municipality's (HRM) proposed 20XX/XX Capital Budget provides for the (renewal/resurfacing/thin overlay/microsurfacing/new sidewalk, etc.) of XXX Street from XXX to XXX. If this project is approved by Council, the proposed work will result in adjustments to driveways and some lawn slopes, but it is anticipated that the majority of the work will be limited to HRM's right-of-way. Any fences, hedges, shrubs and/or gardens that are currently located within the street right-of-way may have to be removed and relocated to within the private property boundaries prior to construction by the property owner. If not relocated prior to construction, HRM will remove and dispose of any features which are in conflict with the proposed works. Trees within the street right-of-way will be addressed by the Municipality, and must not be removed by the property owner.

It is our intention to complete the work during the 20XX construction season if this project is approved by Council. Please be advised as per HRM By-Law S-300 pavement cuts shall not be permitted for two years after the (renewal/resurfacing/thin overlay/micro-surfacing) is complete. If you have a project requiring a pavement cut, please make arrangements to apply for a permit and have the work completed prior to the (renewal/resurfacing/thin overlay/micro-surfacing).

All efforts will be taken to minimize disruptions to your property during construction and a follow-up notice will be sent to all property owners prior to the commencement of the project. Please contact the undersigned at 490-XXXX if you have any questions, or if you are aware of any problems (i.e., drainage or sewer lateral issues).

Sincerely,

XXXX

XXX/xx

cc: XXXX, Councillor, District XX



Design and Construction Services

ADVISORY NOTICE

ISSUE DATE: August 21, 2013

The Halifax Regional Municipality will be carrying out construction work on your street. Parking may be restricted on your street which might require that you consider temporary parking arrangements. We thank you for your patience and cooperation in assisting the Halifax Regional Municipality in improving the level of service to your area and apologize for any inconvenience the work may cause you. Inquiries related to this project should be directed to:

HRM INSPECTOR: Bruce Gates 476-1583

PROJECT: 13-209, Sidewalk Renewals – Swaine Street, Huron Street and Micmac Street

CONTRACTOR: Ocean Contractors Limited 435-1291

**ANTICIPATED
START DATE:** August 28, 2013

**ANTICIPATED
COMPLETION DATE:** October 10, 2013

TYPE OF WORK

Sidewalk Renewals of Swaine Street from Chebucto Road to Berlin Street (west side), Swaine Street from Vienna Street to Berlin Street (east side), Huron Street from Micmac Street to End (both sides) and Micmac Street from Bayers Road to Edgewood Avenue (east side).

The scope of work for this tender generally consists of the replacement of existing concrete curb and gutter with new concrete curb and gutter and the replacement of existing concrete sidewalk with new concrete sidewalk.