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Info Item No. 3
Transportation Standing Committee
December 3, 2014

TO: Chair and Members of Transportation Standing Committee

SUBMITTED BY: *Original signed*

Jane Fraser, Director Operations Support

DATE: 18 November 2014

SUBJECT: Multiple Parking Passes

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

The Transportation Standing Committee requested a staff report on implementing a change to process for the purchase of parking passes to allow for purchase of multiple parking permits at one time, preferably electronically.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Section 70(1)(d) of the HRM Charter states that the Municipality may establish or maintain parking facilities. Sections 153 and 154 of the Motor Vehicle Act allow Regional Council, by by-law, to restrict or regulate parking.

BACKGROUND

Permit Parking Only is one of the parking controls that HRM uses to meet the objectives of the HRM Residential On-Street Parking Policy and the 2008 Regional Parking Strategy Functional Plan. This policy aims to optimize the balance of resident and non-resident parking on residential streets. Streets designated as Permit Parking Only restricts parking between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., except for residents with a residential parking exemption and for holders of monthly parking permits.

The HRM Residential On-Street Parking Policy provides the opportunity to achieve a better balance between resident and non-resident parking needs in high demand neighbourhoods.

DISCUSSION

Currently, monthly "Parking By Permit Only" parking permits can be purchased by individuals for their specific vehicle at a cost of between \$25 and \$40 per month from the HRM Customer Service Centres. Permits go on sale on the 15th day of the month preceding the month for which the permit is intended. There are a limited number of permits available for each street. These monthly parking permits can be purchased in increments of one, two or three months.

As outlined in By-Law P-1000, the application for the permit shall be made by the registered owner of a vehicle. The permit is only valid for the vehicle that is identified at the time of application. This approach supports the programs intention of optimizing the balance of resident and non-resident parking on residential streets. At the time of implementation, the intention was to provide opportunity to individuals to purchase parking permits and as such no consideration was given to allowing businesses to bulk purchase on-street parking passes for temporary issuance of the parking permit to their customers while frequenting their establishment.

The system currently in place for the parking permits does not allow for the opportunity to issue the permits electronically. The ability to provide parking permits electronically has been identified as a customer service improvement however to do so requires a different system than the one currently in use.

The Parking Roadmap supports initiatives that provide greater benefit to the parking customer and also improve the efficiency of services provided by the Municipality. One of the identified technology projects for Council consideration is to implement a technology based solution to manage the issuance, tracking and reporting of residential parking permits and will allow for the electronic issuance of permits.

Parking permits can be purchased in bulk provided that the required documentation, including identification of the individual designated vehicle, is provided. This allows the opportunity for employers or a representative of a group of individuals to purchase all required parking permits for use by designated individuals at one time. The request for businesses to bulk purchase parking permits by business for customer use has not been specifically identified as an item for consideration. The Parking Roadmap identifies the need for the development of a parking management framework which would provide guidance to addressing changes to parking related initiatives such as this proposal. A change to allow for the purchase of a permit without an assigned vehicle to the permit would require a change to By-law 1000 - Residential Parking Exemptions and Permits.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications to this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ATTACHMENTS

None

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/index.php> [or other appropriate Committee link] then choose the appropriate [Community Council/Board] and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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