



City of Port Moody

Governance and Legislation Committee

Date: November 21, 2023
Submitted by: Community Development Department – Building, Bylaw, and Licensing Division
Subject: Street, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw Amendment – 3-hour Parking

Purpose

To propose an amendment to section 6.3.5. of City of Port Moody Street, Traffic and Public Places Bylaw, 1981, No. 1528, to include a limit on the times of day and days of the week the parking restriction is in effect and can be enforced, when complaints are received.

Recommended Resolution(s)

THAT City of Port Moody Street, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw, 1981, No. 1528, Amendment Bylaw No. 22, 2023, No. 3434 be referred to the Regular Council meeting of November 28, 2023, for consideration of first, second and, third readings as recommended in the report dated November 21, 2023, from the Community Development Department – Building, Bylaw, and Licensing Division regarding Street, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw Amendment – 3-hour Parking.

Background

Section 6.3.5. of City of Port Moody Street, Traffic and Public Places Bylaw, 1981, No. 1528 states that “No person shall park a motor vehicle adjacent to the residential property of another person, upon any highway within the City for a period of more than three hours”. This section was intended to allow for otherwise unregulated on-street parking to be regulated if an individual property owner complained or raised concerns about vehicles parking for extended periods of time abutting their single detached or semi-detached homes.

Enforced only upon complaint, this provision was meant to address cases where the parking adjacent to the particular property was consistently being occupied by someone that does not reside in the area, is being used by transit commuters near the Moody Centre or Inlet Centre SkyTrain stations or is being used to park vehicles that are sitting idle for extended periods of time. Over time, as some people learned about this provision, they would request service constantly, even though they did not need or occupy the on-street parking adjacent to their homes on a City street.

The City’s bylaw enforcement staff have been struggling for many years keeping up with the level of service requested by some residents for enforcement under this provision. Many

residents contact the City multiple times a day, whether or not they actually need the parking adjacent to their home.

Discussion

The “no parking for a period of more than three hours regulation” impacts some residents’ ability to use all available on-street parking in the neighbourhood. This provision has become increasingly problematic over the last few years as lot configurations have been changing. Some lots have a very small frontages, while other lots have multiple street frontages creating a situation of unequal access to street parking. Active transportation infrastructure projects (sidewalks, bike lanes/paths), green infrastructure, and the need for traffic safety and operational related parking restrictions as street activity increases create further restrictions adjacent to some homes and affected residents are then limited in ability to park elsewhere in the neighbourhood.

The original intent of the regulation was to discourage commuters or commercial vehicles from parking in a particular neighbourhood for extended periods of time. An unintended consequence of this regulation has been restricting access for residents to the total on-street parking available in an area. The regulation has also been used in some situations to escalate private property conflicts to block people who have limited street frontage from parking on the street. Situations where a resident files a Bylaw complaint that a car is parked abutting their property (regardless of the actual need for that space) are increasing. Some days these requests challenge staff resources and can place staff in the middle of these private property disputes.

These service requests often mean that an Officer must make at least two trips to an address. The first trip is to chalk the vehicles tires, and then the second trip is to confirm the violation and issue a ticket to the vehicle. Often, individuals are not aware of the City’s unique Bylaw until they receive the ticket. This regulation is not typically posted in most areas of Port Moody, outside of areas heavily impacted by commuter parking and traffic, which results in most individuals disputing the initial infraction notice, resulting in more staff time spent administering the regulation.

To address the inequitable distribution of parking and the impact on staff resources, staff recommend that Council consider the following resolution and bylaw amendment to limit the times of day and the days of the week during which section 6.3.5 is in effect. Staff recommend the regulation only be in effect Monday to Friday, from 7am to 7pm. Draft City of Port Moody Street, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw, 1981, No. 1528, Amendment Bylaw No. 22, 2023, No. 3434 is included for consideration as **Attachment 1**.

Limiting the application and enforcement of this regulation to regular business hours, during the regular work week, will still allow enforcement to address the most egregious examples of individuals parking adjacent to another persons’ property, particularly in preventing commuters from parking in adjacent neighbourhoods near SkyTrain stations.

Consistent with most other parking regulations in the City, limiting the in-effect times and dates will allow for some longer-term parking to occur in the evenings and on weekends in neighbourhoods where there is already a shortage of parking, and will increase the available on-

street parking, alleviating some parking availability issues. The recommended changes to the Bylaw will also provide more equitable access to neighbourhood parking for residents residing in the neighbourhood.

Bylaw enforcement services under the Bylaw will still be available at peak commuter times and staff will continue to address parking adjacent to residential properties for more than 40 hours per week. This regulation change is anticipated to still successfully discourage commuters from parking in residential neighbourhoods, as well as limit vehicles parking on the street for extended periods of time, allowing for turnover of parking spaces. Bylaw staff will be able to respond to complaints during regular business hours, ensuring expectations are in line with the department's ability to provide the service operationally.

Other Option(s)

THAT the report dated November 21, 2023, from the Community Development Department – Building, Bylaw, and Licensing Division regarding Street, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw Amendment – 3-hour Parking be received for information.

Financial Implications

There should be no financial impact to the City as a result of the proposed amendment.

Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

If approved, information on the updated bylaw will be included on the City website and changes to the bylaw will be shared with the public.

Council Strategic Plan Goals

The recommendations in this report align with the following Council Strategic Plan Goal(s):

- Strategic Goal 3.2 – Provide safe, efficient, and accessible transportation options; and
- Strategic Goal 3.3 – Enhance community wellbeing.

Attachment(s)

1. Draft City of Port Moody Street, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw, 1981, No. 1528, Amendment Bylaw No. 22, 2023, No. 3434.

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Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Street, Traffic, and Public Places Bylaw Amendment – 3-hour Parking.docx
Attachments:	- Attachment 1 - Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw, 2020, No. 3218, Amendment Bylaw No. 5, 2021, No. 3334.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Nov 14, 2023

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Kate Zanon, General Manager of Community Development - Oct 19, 2023

Stephanie Lam, City Clerk and Manager of Legislative Services - Oct 23, 2023

Lindsay Todd, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Oct 24, 2023

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Oct 24, 2023

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Nov 14, 2023