

Traffic Bylaw Amendments – Fringe Festival and Exhibition Week Parking

ISSUE

This report is requesting approval to amend Bylaw No. 7200, Traffic Bylaw, 1991, to provide a more appropriate enforcement tool for select infractions, as well as update provisions relating to Fringe Festival and Exhibition week parking permit programs.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation recommend to City Council:

1. That the proposed amendments to Bylaw No. 7200, Traffic Bylaw, 1991, as outlined in this report, be approved; and
2. That the City Solicitor be requested to make the necessary amendments to Bylaw No. 7200, Traffic Bylaw, 1991.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to amend [Bylaw No. 7200, Traffic Bylaw, 1991](#) (Traffic Bylaw). The proposed amendments seek to provide greater clarity on Fringe Festival and Exhibition week (Events) parking permit programs, specifically related to permit provisions, enforcement tools and permit zones.

During the Events, on-street parking is only permitted for vehicles with a displayed parking permit. Permits are delivered to residents of the Events' Zones, prior to each Events' start date, and must be displayed on resident vehicles for the duration of the event in their zone. Vehicles parked on-street which fail to display a permit during the Events are in violation, and enforcement measures can be taken, as per the Traffic Bylaw, which includes the issuance of a parking ticket.

The Fringe Festival has been hosted on or around Broadway Avenue since 1990. Parking permits for the Fringe Festival have been in place every year since 2007, and permit zone boundaries have remained unchanged for each Fringe Festival since that time. The Fringe Festival permit zone is bound by Saskatchewan Crescent East to the north, Victoria Avenue to the west, 8th Street to the south and Lansdowne Avenue to the east. In recent years, the Fringe Festival has shifted the main event location to W.E. Graham Park, east of Broadway Avenue.

The Exhibition week parking zone was initially tested as a pilot project in 1997, with subsequent boundary expansions happening in 2010 and 2013. The Exhibition week parking zone consists of three areas, each of which receive a different parking permit during Exhibition week.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The following list includes proposed amendments to the Traffic Bylaw, accompanied by rationale:

1. Add provisions which allow for two permits per dwelling or commercial unit.
 - a. Two permits per-unit has been the informal practice for both permitting programs. Formalizing this provision will provide greater clarity for residents and Administration as it relates to the Events' permitting expectations.
2. Add provisions to prohibit the misuse of permits.
 - a. In recent years, misuse of the Events parking permits, such as the sale or gifting of permits, or the creation of counterfeit permits, has become prevalent. Currently, no enforcement option exists in the Traffic Bylaw to prevent misuse of permits.
 - b. Updating the Traffic Bylaw with enforcement options, like those which exist in section 16 of [Bylaw No. 7862, Residential Parking Program Bylaw, 1999](#), that regulate the use and conditions of a permit, will provide Administration the ability to enforce against misuse of permits. These provisions for misuse of permits would make it an offence to sell or gift a permit, to create, use, display, sell or gift a counterfeit permit, to provide false information in an application for a permit, and to fail to report a lost or stolen permit. Corresponding fine amounts for these offences would also be added.
3. Amend the definition of Fringe Festival.
 - a. As the location of the Fringe Festival has not taken place on Broadway Avenue in recent years, a more general definition must be provided in the Traffic Bylaw.
4. Expand the Fringe Festival parking zone.
 - a. The Fringe Festival parking zone (Schedule No. 14 of the Traffic Bylaw) requires an amendment to include the 800 Block of 11th Street East.
 - b. This expansion is supported by evidence gathered during a parking demand study, which took place at the 2022 Fringe Festival. This study measured average parking counts during the Fringe Festival dates and compared them to a baseline period prior to the Fringe Festival. The study only observed streets located one block outside the existing Fringe Festival parking zone. Findings of this study showed average occupancy along the 800 block of 11th Street exceeded the baseline period and supply for the street. This block was the only block where such a finding was observed. Further support has been received by residents of the block.
 - c. The Fringe Festival currently takes place at W.E. Graham Park, located at 602 Dufferin Avenue, situated east of Broadway Avenue. This shifts parking demand during the Fringe Festival further east.
 - d. No changes are being proposed to the permit zone boundaries for Exhibition week.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Costs associated to the 800 block of 11th Street East being added to the Fringe Festival parking zone, including costs of permit printing, delivery and enforcement time, are anticipated to be negligible.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

There are no privacy, legal, social or environmental implications identified.

NEXT STEPS

Should City Council approve the proposed recommendations, the City Solicitor will draft necessary bylaw amendments, to be tabled at a future meeting of City Council, prior to the 2023 Fringe Festival and Exhibition event dates. Approved amendments will be communicated to affected property owners on the 800 block of 11th Street East.

APPENDICES

1. Fringe Festival Parking Area

Report Approval

Written by: Mitch Nemeth, Parking Policy and Permitting Manager
Reviewed by: Wayne Sum, Parking Services Manager
Matt Grazier, Director of Community Standards
Approved by: Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services

SP2023/CS/Transportation/Traffic Bylaw Amendments – Fringe Festival and Exhibition Week Parking/cm