

Parking Ticket Increase – Unpaid Time – 2024/2025

RECOMMENDATION

That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare amendment(s) to Bylaw No. 7200, the Traffic Bylaw, 1991 (Traffic Bylaw), to increase penalty amounts on parking tickets for violations involving unpaid parking or failing to properly display a ticket in pay parking areas, as follows:

1. Amend the early penalty payment, the payment made within 14 days from the date of parking ticket issuance, from \$30.00 to \$35.00; and
2. Amend the specified penalty amount, the payment after 14 days from date of parking ticket issuance, from \$50.00 to \$60.00.

ISSUE

This report provides recommendations on increasing penalty amounts of parking tickets for unpaid parking under the Taxation and General Revenue Business Line.

BACKGROUND

The Governance and Priorities Committee (Committee), at its meeting on August 31, 2023, considered the 2024/2025 Business Plan and Budget Process Report and resolved to increase parking ticket amounts as follows:

“Taxation & General Revenues - Option 4 - \$30 to \$35 for the reduced penalty rate for parking offences related to parking in a pay parking area where purchased time has expired”; and

“Taxation & General Revenues - Option 4 – An increase to Parking Ticket Penalty Amounts of \$50 to \$60 for late pay penalties.”

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The [Traffic Bylaw](#) outlines penalties for parking-related offences. The most common parking-related offence relates to parking in a pay parking area where purchased time has expired. The current penalty amount for this offence is \$30, if payment is made within 14 days of ticket issuance, or \$50 for tickets paid after 14 days. Parking tickets were last increased on July 1, 2017. The recommended increases are aligned with inflation rates since the time of the last parking ticket increase and help ensure the rates for parking ticket penalties continue to be a meaningful deterrent.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

An increase to the specified penalty of \$50 to \$60 results in a projected revenue gain of approximately \$169,000. An increase to the early payment penalty of \$30 to \$35 results in a projected revenue increase of approximately \$118,000. The combined projected revenue increase is approximately \$287,000. These projections are based on current parking ticket payment ratios for both the early payment option and late penalty option. It is noted that revisions to the penalty structure may have potential to alter these assumptions.

OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Amendments to the Traffic Bylaw are required to support implementation of changes to the proposed parking ticket penalty amount.