



REPORT

REPORT TO: Mayor Bonnette and Members of Council

REPORT FROM: Susie Spry, Supervisor of Enforcement Services

DATE: August 12, 2020

REPORT NO.: ADMIN-2020-0026

RE: Resumption of the Town of Halton Hills Parking Enforcement program

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. ADMIN-2020-0026 dated August 12, 2020 regarding the resumption of the Town of Halton Hills parking enforcement program be received:

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve staff's request to resume the Town's parking enforcement program in its entirety which would include time related enforcement (on-street parking enforcement) as well as the collection of fees for municipal lot permit holders.

BACKGROUND:

On March 17, 2020, the Province of Ontario declared a state of emergency to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and to keep the people of Ontario safe. On March 23, 2020, the Province ordered the closure of all non-essential workplaces. As a result of the declaration and its associated orders, many establishments were legally required to close causing many Ontarians to be faced with financial hardships through job loss, reduction of hours and/or the cancellation of their academic school year.

Through the daily provincial briefings, the Premier suggested local municipalities "relax" some of their by-laws in relation to noise and parking in order to give a break to businesses and residents during this very difficult time. Municipalities across Ontario adhered to the advice of the Premier. Enforcement Services quietly ceased all time related parking enforcement and suspended the parking permit program for municipal lots.

Ontario has since transitioned into the recovery phase with the new *Reopening Ontario* (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act and the Region of Halton is currently in Stage 3 of Ontario Regulation 364/20.

COMMENTS:

Since Enforcement adapted the “relaxed” approach, complaints from residents have gradually increased. The Town’s Enforcement Coordinator began tracking requests to resume parking enforcement in June and has recorded an average of 2-3 calls per day through June, July and August. With the announcement from the Province indicating schools will re-open in September, there is concern with the anticipated increase of vehicular and pedestrian traffic and what the impact will be on Town streets.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

This report is operational in nature and therefore is not directly related to the Strategic Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Revenues received between the period of March 2019 through to August 2019 from parking fines totaled \$88, 296.00. During this same period in 2020, revenues from parking fines totaled \$46, 103.00, totaling a decrease of \$42, 193.00 in revenue.

CONSULTATION:

Staff consulted with Ontario Parking Control, the town’s parking control contract providers, regarding the resumption of parking control enforcement.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Staff will seek the assistance of our communications group to provide residents with information on the re-launch of the program through the Town’s website, social media platforms and public notices in the local newspaper.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

The Town is committed to implementing our Community Sustainability Strategy, Imagine Halton Hills. Doing so will lead to a higher quality of life.

The recommendation outlined in this report is not applicable to the Strategy’s implementation.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Staff will provide residents information on the resumption of enforcement through the Town’s website and through the various social media platforms.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommend the resumption of the parking enforcement program to commence on Friday September 4, 2020 prior to the re-opening of schools and the increase in vehicular traffic which will include busses being back on the roads. Municipal lot permit holders would be advised resumption of fee payment for parking would commence as of October 1, 2020.

Reviewed and Approved by,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Suzanne Jones".

Suzanne Jones, Clerk & Director of Legislative Services

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Mills".

Chris Mills, Acting Chief Administrative Officer