Background and Discussion

The Town's current traffic by-law was written in 1983 and has been amended on several occasions in response to administration functions and demands for additional or alternative provisions. Municipalities have the option of consolidating the original by-law by incorporating the amendments into an all-encompassing by-law or recreate a by-law to address and meet new standards, provincial guidelines, regulations, and legislation, in addition to modernize the by-law and reflect the ongoing needs of the community. Town staff determined the best solution was to create a new by-law that will meet the demands of today's traffic environment.

As residential densities have increased in recent years there has been a resulting increase in the number of vehicles parking on streets, residents using on-street parking, boulevard parking, obstructing sidewalks, boulevards and crosswalks. These issues have increased the demands for enforcement of these offences.

Several key changes are being proposed with regard to enforcement practices and procedures. A summary of these changes and the rationale for the changes includes:

Changing the overnight parking prohibition from November 15 to April 15 between midnight and 8:00 am to no overnight parking year-round between 2:00 am and 6:00 am.

More efficient utilization of staff hours, and municipal resources to attend and ticket and address community complaints regarding parking congestion on Town streets outside of the previous winter parking restrictions.

Allow for road maintenance crews – ploughing, street sweeping, general repairs, water plants in the downtown core, install and maintain street scaping downtown – to access streets year-round with reduced obstructions caused by parked vehicles.

The intent of prohibiting overnight parking from 2:00 am to 6:00 am is more in line with the hours most households consider to be overnight hours

Proactive enforcement would continue during the winter season between November 1 to April 30, and a complaint-based enforcement practice between May 1 and October 31.

Introduction of a time limit for residential parking on a street outside of the downtown core to 5 hours.

Reduce visual hazards, keep sightlines clear, allow for more bike access, and less obstructions for Operations staff road work and road maintenance.

The offence would be complaint driven to allow residents in particular neighbourhoods to independently determine what level of on street parking is acceptable. The 5-hour limit

would not be enforced on weekends, or statutory holidays unless it is determined the grace periods are being abused.

Expand the 3-hour parking limit within the downtown core to include more streets, First Ave East and West, William Street and Victoria Street

Introduction of new no parking at any time on some streets where concerns have been brought forward regarding emergency vehicles and service vehicles having safe passage or ability to access a street due to parked vehicles.

Clarification of other provisions with new wording for vehicles that extend into the roadway from the paved apron section of the boulevard/apron. This offence would not allow a vehicle to be parked on an apron that encroaches on to the travelled portion of the road.

Further clarification regarding:

- parking in the centre of a cul de sac;
- parking in a laneway;
- when/where official signs must be posted and what offences do not require signage;
- heavy vehicle versus commercial vehicles;
- on the apron and extending onto the roadway;
- park or leave a trailer, road making equipment, not attached to a vehicle offence.

Introduction of New Offences:

- Heavy trucks/commercial vehicles park/stop on roadways without first obtaining a Road Occupancy Permit or written authorization from the Town (not applicable to household moving vehicles, delivery vehicles;
- Park within 3 metres of a fire hydrant;
- Park within 0.3 m of a driveway, or blocking a driveway;
- Park at electric charging station;
- Fail to properly display accessible parking permit;
- Park overnight 2:00 am to 6:00 am;
- Park in excess of 5 hours on any roadway;
- Park/leave inoperable vehicle;
- Leak fluid on roadway.