

**COMMUNICATION 131103**

Received From: Pascal Meunier, Director of Protective Services  
Guy Bourgon, Director of Public Works  
Addressed To: Committee of the Whole  
Date: September 8, 2020  
Topic: Parking By-law Amendment

**SUMMARY**

In February 2019, Councillor Seccaspina made a notice of motion with respect to a longstanding, on-street parking issue in the Town of Carleton Place. Due to narrow streets and significant population growth, there is increased traffic throughout the Town. After researching the issue, it was determined that to better manage parking and to ensure safety concerns are addressed in certain neighbourhoods, staff proposed that for some streets, parking only be permitted on one side of the street and for the narrowest streets, parking on both sides be prohibited. In some cases, the parking restrictions will be seasonal, rather than year-round. The proposed restrictions will only apply to narrow streets where there are clear safety concerns with allowing on-street parking. Many of the wider streets will continue to have parking on both sides.

In November 2019, staff presented a list of streets that had been identified as areas of concern. Council directed staff to complete further study and come back with a streamlined list of locations that required immediate attention.

In December 2019, though the study was not complete, staff came back with a list of four (4) streets which they felt should be addressed before winter.

Staff also noted several locations where signage is inconsistent with the current Traffic and Parking by-law. In these instances, signage may be incomplete, incorrectly placed, or missing due to removal during road work and construction. Public Works has been working on rectifying the identified signage issues.

**BACKGROUND**

Over the last decade, Carleton Place has seen significant growth. With this growth has come a significant increase in traffic. Many streets in Carleton Place are not wide enough to facilitate parking on both sides of the street without safety issues such as low visibility, sufficient space for traffic and limited or inadequate space for the movement of emergency vehicles. This is creating a serious safety hazard as emergency vehicles need to respond to scenes as quickly as possible with little interference.

In recent years, there have been situations where cars have parked on both sides of narrow streets, blocking fire trucks from responding to emergency calls. Winter conditions result in a further narrowing of streets as snowbanks encroach on the roadways. Serious time is lost when fire trucks need to back up and find alternate routes to an emergency scene. This is also stressful for first responders who are trying to do their jobs as efficiently as possible.

Further, we often receive complaints from residents who live on the narrower streets and cannot exit their driveways or make it through an area when cars are parked on both sides of their street.

Having street parking on one side of the street or in some instances no on-street parking on some of the narrower and busier streets in Town will reduce hazards and provide easier access for emergency vehicles.

## DISCUSSION

Town staff have determined through visits to each location that there are four (4) streets of particular concern. Staff suggests that the following locations be addressed at this time:

LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION	RATIONALE
Munro Street from Park Avenue to Francis Street	Seasonal parking restrictions on the north side of the street from November 1 to April 15	Narrowing in winter can cause problems for emergency vehicles
Johnston Street	Seasonal parking restrictions on the north/east side  Year-round restrictions at both 90-degree turns	Narrowing in winter can cause problems for emergency vehicles  Cars parked on both sides at 90-degree turns can cause problems for emergency vehicles
Franktown Rd from Hwy 7 to Moore Street	Year-round parking restrictions on the west side of the street  Year-round parking restriction on the east side between Hwy 7 and Alexander Street and between Catherine and Miguel Streets  Seasonal parking restrictions on the east side between Alexander and Catherine Streets	Traffic volumes are high, causing difficulty when cars park on both sides  Traffic volumes are high, causing difficulty when cars park on both sides in these areas  Narrowing in winter can cause problems for emergency vehicles
Bridge Street from Townline Road to Central Bridge	Year-round on the west side	Traffic volumes are high causing difficulty when cars park on both sides. Narrowing in winter can cause problems for emergency vehicles

Staff feels these recommended changes will help alleviate many of the safety issues on these streets, however, the areas of concern will be monitored through the winter months. Staff will report back to Council in Spring 2021 should there be any changes or additional signage required.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The only financial implication related to the required by-law amendment to enact these changes will relate to the cost for the installation of signage which can be accommodated within existing operational budgets.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

THAT a By-law to amend parking on the following streets be forwarded to Council for approval:

- Munro Street from Park Street to Francis Street
- Johnson Street
- Franktown Road from Highway 7 to Moore Street
- Bridge Street from Townline Road to Central Bridge