

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – SEPTEMBER 2, 2008

NAPA VALLEY DRIVE: OVERNIGHT ON-STREET PARKING PILOT PROJECT

Recommendation

Councillor Tony Carella recommends that appropriate staff be directed to provide the terms of reference (including operational details) for a one-year-long pilot project, to permit overnight, on-street parking along Napa Valley Drive (from numbers 323 to 357 and from 604 to 662), and that a report in this regard be provided to a future Committee of the Whole no later than October 31, 2008.

Economic Impact

The pilot project will reduce marginally revenues raised through overnight parking tickets issued in the immediate area. Any other impacts shall be detailed in the forthcoming report.

Communication Plan

The ward councillor will inform residents of Napa Valley about the project in advance of its implementation.

Purpose

To address the concerns of local residents regarding the shortage of off-street parking spaces in an area where two-car garage townhouses are concentrated and three-car families reside.

Background – Analysis and Options

One of the unintended consequences of the “new urbanism” is the general lack of off-street parking spaces----the result of shorter driveways or narrowed laneways leading to garages that will accommodate a maximum of two cars. Frequently, the issue arises when the children of a long-resident, two-car family reach driving age and a third car is added to the family “fleet”. The result is invariably an ongoing record of parking tickets, frequently totaling in the hundreds of dollars. While some suggest that the responsibility lies with the homeowner, to choose a home that will accommodate all of the cars belonging to the household, the practice found in older municipalities where parking is limited if not non-existent recommends itself: permit parking on street, for a fee.

This pilot project is intended to address an already-existing situation, but may point to other longer-term solutions: for instance, small public lots as a planned part of a subdivision, that local residents may or may not use depending on the number of drivers and cars belonging to a given household at a particular time.

Regional Implications

Nil

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 20/20

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Conclusion

The dearth of overnight, on-street parking---and the parking tickets that result---cannot be dismissed as the result of wrong choices on the part of the home buyer. It is, however, subject to a solution in the short term (as this pilot project may indicate), or in the long-term (via a number of options---for instance, mini-parking lots near town houses, as part of the design of subdivisions that feature a mix of housing types).

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

Councillor Tony Carella, FRSA

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Carella, FRSA
Councillor – Ward 2