

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - AUGUST 20, 2001

PARKING IN LANEWAYS

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Development Services & Public Works recommends:

1. That an administrative amendment be made to the Consolidated Parking By-Law N° 1-96 recognizing the new "Schedule A - Part 11, Fire Access Route Sign" in laneways within the City of Vaughan; and
2. That a by-law be enacted to prohibit parking of vehicles in laneways within the City of Vaughan.

Purpose

To amend By-law 1-96 in response to concerns with vehicles parked in public laneways.

Background - Analysis and Options

By-law Enforcement has received numerous complaints from Public Works concerning vehicles parked in public laneways that obstruct snow removal and garbage pick up. In addition, many complaints have been received from residents who use these laneways and have difficulty entering and exiting their garages due to cars and trucks being parked parallel to the opposite garages.

Engineering Department staff reviewed the matter with the Vaughan Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS). VFRS staff has reviewed the issue of vehicles parking in lanes outside the designated parking pads and/or garages. They are concerned that where vehicles are parked in front of garages and along the laneway pavement, these parked vehicles may prevent a fire truck from getting through to an emergency call location. Where it is not possible for a fire truck to pass by parked vehicles, response times may be increased. This situation would be worse in winter where snow removal activities would be hampered resulting in a build up of snow thus narrowing the travel lane even further.

VFRS staff noted that vehicle parking in laneways could hamper fire suppression efforts in making it more difficult to advance fire attack and water supply hose lines between fire hydrants, fire trucks and the burning building.

Staff have noted that in several areas, children were playing in rear laneways. Vehicles parked in laneways would create visual obstruction and could result in collisions between children stepping out from behind a parked car and a vehicle travelling in the lane.

Based on the foregoing, it is recommended that parking be prohibited in rear laneways. These lanes should be designated as 'Fire Access Routes' that would strictly prohibit parking. From our review, we have learned this approach has been taken in other municipalities and is useful in keeping laneways open for emergency vehicle access. Staff will arrange to have the necessary signs posted in all subdivisions with rear lanes constructed to date and incorporated in all future subdivision agreements where rear lanes are developed.

Conclusion

Staff are requesting Council support of the By-law amendment to include public laneways as fire routes.

Attachments

1. Schedule A – Part 11, Fire Access Route Sign

Report prepared by

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Respectfully submitted,

FRANK MIELE
Commissioner of Development Services
& Public Works

Bill Robinson, P. Eng.
Executive Director of City Engineering
& Public Works

MD/mr

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ATTACHMENT NO. 1

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COMPREHENSIVE PARKING BY-LAW

SCHEDULE "A" – PART 11

FIRE ACCESS ROUTE SIGN

<u>HIGHWAY</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Laneway A	Laneway B	Via Canala Way
Laneway B	Laneway A	Napa Valley Avenue
Laneway C	Napa Valley Avenue	Sonoma Boulevard
Laneway D	Colie Melito Way	Sonoma Boulevard
Laneway E	Laneway D	Colie Melito Way
Laneway F	Clarence Street	Castilian Drive
Laneway G	Napa Valley Avenue	Monte Carlo Drive
Laneway H	Sunset Ridge	Amarone Avenue
Laneway I	Sonoma Boulevard	Fonteselva Avenue
Laneway Block 272	Street 11	La Rocca Avenue
Laneway Block 273	Street 12	Fossil Hill Road
Laneway Block 81	Street 17	La Rocca Avenue
Laneway Block 110	Street 13	La Rocca Avenue
Laneway Block 111	Street 13	Street 14
Laneway Block 112	Street 13	Street 14
Laneway Block 113	Street 13	La Rocca Avenue
Lane 175	La Rocca Avenue	Legnano Crescent
Lane 216	Saint Clare Boulevard	Its westerly limit
Lane 217	Saint Clare Boulevard	Saint Stephen Crescent
Laneway Block 142	Fossil Hill Road	Street 45
Laneway Block 169	Fossil Hill Road	Street 46 North
Laneway Block 170	Vellore Road	Street 51 North
Laneway Block 305	Fossil Hill Road	Street 46 South
Laneway Block 306	Vellore Road	Street 51 South
Lane A	Bellagio Crescent	Novella Road (west intersection)
Lane A	Bellagio Crescent	Novella Road (east intersection)
Lane B	Tuscana Boulevard	Dufferin Hills Drive
Lane A	Benjamin Hood Crescent	Dufferin Hills Drive
Lane B	Benjamin Hood Crescent	Elderbrook Crescent