COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - OCTOBER 18, 2004

DUFFERIN HILL DRIVE – NO PARKING SIGNS

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Engineering and Public Works recommends:

- 1. That a 'No Parking' prohibition be implemented on the north and south side of Dufferin Hill Drive from Dufferin Street to Marathon Avenue between the hours of 7:30 am to 9:30 am and 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm Monday to Friday; and
- 2. That a copy of subject report be forwarded to the North Hill Private Hill School and York Regional Police Services for their information.

Purpose

To report on the feasibility of implementing a parking prohibition on Dufferin Hill Drive from Dufferin Street to Marathon Avenue adjacent to the North Hill Private School.

Background - Analysis and Options

At its meeting of June 14, 2004, Council directed:

- 1. "That staff be requested to investigate the need for and the feasibility of installing "No Parking" controls between the hours of 7:30 am and 9:30 am and the hours of 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm on both the north and the south sides of Dufferin Hill Drive from Dufferin Street to Marathon Drive; and"
- 2. "That staff report to a future Committee of the Whole meeting with their findings as soon as possible."

The North Hill Private School is located on the southwest corner of Dufferin Street and Dufferin Hill Drive. The school's parking lot consists of 18 ordinary parking spaces and 1 handicapped parking space. The entrance driveway is located on the south side of Dufferin Hill Drive. (Refer to Attachment No. 1).

Engineering Services staff conducted observations on Thursday, September 9, 2004 during the hours of 7:30 am and 9:30 am, and from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The study was conducted to determine the parking activity on Dufferin Hill Drive near the school.

During the morning hour of 7:30 am and 8:30 am, parent drop-off activity occurred on-site using the parking lot. After 8:30 am, the parking lot was full and this forced on-street parking through the balance of the morning period. It was noted that during the busiest school arrival period from 8:40 am to 9:15 am, there were 19 vehicles parked on both sides of Dufferin Hill Drive adjacent to the school. Parents parked their vehicles and walked their children to the school. Almost all students were pre-kindergarten age, so it is necessary for parents to walk with the students.

A similar situation happens in the afternoon during parent pick-up of students. At 3:50 pm the parking lot was full and that forced on-street parking to occur. From 3:50 pm to 4:15 pm there were 19 vehicles parked on both sides of Dufferin Hill Drive adjacent to the school. There were also 1 to 3 vehicles parked on the south side of Dufferin Hill Drive for the balance of the school dismissal period from 4:15 pm to 6:00 pm.

Based on the observations, the North Hill Private School parking lot does not adequately serve the demand for parking at the site.

Dufferin Hill Drive in the section between Dufferin Street and Marathon Avenue is directionally separated by a raised centre median island. The raised island is 3.0 metres wide and landscaped. There is 7.0m of pavement width for eastbound traffic and 7.0m of pavement width for westbound traffic.

It was also noted during the on-site observations that there is ongoing risk associated with the parent's on-street parking adjacent to the private school. Some parents parked on the south side of Dufferin Hill Drive too close to or part-way across the private school parking lot driveway entrance. Others parked partially into the Marathon Drive intersection. At the same time parents were randomly walking young children across Dufferin Hill Drive to and from nearby parked vehicles.

In summary, the on-street parking on Dufferin Hill Drive is a problem for the following reasons:

- It results in less than 6.0 metres of pavement being available for the use and passage of a fire response emergency vehicle. This is a violation of fire route criteria.
- The presence of parked vehicles restricts sight lines from the school driveway and the adjacent intersections. This concern is made more critical with the presence of parents walking children across the street within the same area.

To improve the situation it is recommended that a 'No Parking' restriction be implemented on both the north and south sides of Dufferin Hill Drive between Dufferin Street and Marathon Avenue.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This traffic study is consistent with Vaughan Vision 2007 which seeks to improve community safety through design, prevention, enforcement and education (1.1) through the review of the level of enforcement, compliance and monitoring of regulations relating to public safety (1.1.6).

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

Conclusion

Based on staff's review, it is recommended that a 'No Parking' prohibition be implemented between the hours of 7:30 am to 9:30 am, and 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm Monday thru Friday on the north and south side of Dufferin Hill Drive between Dufferin Street and Marathon Avenue, and that the North Hill Private School and York Regional Polices Services be so advised of the same.

Attachments

1. Location Map

Report prepared by

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ATTACHMENT No. 1

