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**TO:** GENERAL COMMITTEE

**SUBJECT:** TRAFFIC CONCERNS - MAPLETON AVENUE  
(BETWEEN ESSA ROAD AND VETERAN'S DRIVE)

**PREPARED BY AND  
KEY CONTACT:** S. ROSE, C.E.T., TSOS  
SENIOR TRAFFIC TECHNOLOGIST (Ext. 4382)

**SUBMITTED BY:** R. W. MCARTHUR, P. Eng.  
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING (ACTING)

**COMMISSIONER  
APPROVAL:** R. J. FORWARD, M.Sc., P. Eng.  
COMMISSIONER OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE  
OFFICER APPROVAL:** JON M. BABULIC  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

1. That Traffic By-law 80-138 be amended to prohibit parking on the north side of Mapleton Avenue, between Essa Road and Veteran's Drive.
2. That Engineering Staff monitor the roadways adjacent to the proposed parking prohibitions to ensure that the proposed parking restrictions do not affect the safe and efficient operation of the roadways.

**PURPOSE & BACKGROUND**

3. On December 18, 2006, City Council adopted Motion 06-G-584 regarding Traffic Concerns on Mapleton Avenue, between Essa Road and Veteran's Drive:  
  
*"That, staff in the Engineering Department review traffic patterns, parking and the geometrics of Mapleton Avenue between Essa Road and Veteran's Drive and report back to General Committee."*
4. Mapleton Avenue is a two lane roadway classified as a collector roadway with current traffic volumes of approximately 4,700 vehicles per day and a pavement width of 9 metres.
5. Currently, parking is prohibited through the curve on Mapleton Avenue on both sides, from Boag Court and Warner Road easterly for 100 metres. Overnight parking is prohibited from October 17 to May 1 between 3:00 am and 6:00 am for the purpose of snow clearing.
6. Heavy trucks are prohibited from travelling Mapleton Avenue, between Essa Road and Veteran's Drive.
7. Traffic By-law 80-138 - Section 4(2)(e) provides a general provision for Staff to prohibit parking within 30 metres of an intersection controlled by traffic control signals.

**ANALYSIS**

8. Currently, residents are parking on both sides of Mapleton Avenue. This parking results in minor delays and safety issues for all vehicles and pedestrians, including emergency service vehicles.

9. Two collisions have been reported in the past 4 years where motorists have collided with parked vehicles.
10. Collector roadways have the following characteristics:
  - a) Average Traffic Volume - 3,000-8,000 Vehicles per day
  - b) Connects - Locals, Collectors and Arterials
  - c) Transit Service Permitted
11. As per Traffic By-law 80-138 - Section 4(2)(e), Staff recommends prohibiting parking on both sides of Mapleton Avenue approximately 30 metres easterly from the traffic control signals at Essa Road and both sides of Mapleton Avenue approximately 30 metres westerly from the traffic control signals at Veteran's Drive.
12. A Parking Questionnaire was prepared and delivered to one hundred and eighteen property owners on Mapleton Avenue within the study area soliciting the residents' views regarding this proposal. Residents also living on adjacent streets within 150 metres of the affected streets were also solicited regarding their views of this proposal. These streets include:
  - a) Boag Court
  - b) O'Shaughnessy Crescent
  - c) Quance Street
  - d) Warner Road

Refer to Appendix "A" for a copy of the survey. Results of the Questionnaire are as follows:

<b>PROHIBITED PARKING SURVEY</b>	<b>RESPONSES RECEIVED</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE OF RESPONSES</b>
In Favour (As outlined in Appendix "A")	10	38%
Opposed (Provide more Parking/Potential Speeding)	13	50%
Undecided (Provide more Parking)	3	12%
<b>TOTAL (Out of 118)</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>22%</b>

13. Upon review of survey responses, approximately 50% of the opposed and undecided are in favour of parking restrictions, but allow for visitors to park on weekends/evenings and not force parking to the adjacent roadways. As a result, Staff has amended the proposed parking restriction to allow parking to continue on the south side.
14. Staff have reviewed the geometrics of Mapleton Avenue and chose the south side to maximize the availability of on-street parking.
15. Staff recommends that Parking be prohibited on the north side of Mapleton Avenue, between Essa Road and Veteran's Drive, as shown in Appendix "B".
16. The asphalt width on Mapleton Avenue is not wide enough to allow for on-street parking on both sides of the roadway, as it would reduce the effective width of asphalt to approximately 4.6 metres or 2.3 metre lanes per direction. Permitting parking on one side of Mapleton Avenue will allow for two lanes at 3.5 metres per lane, plus the parking area.

17. The introduction of parking prohibitions on Mapleton Avenue may result in overflow vehicles moving to adjacent streets within the neighbourhood. As a result, Engineering Staff will monitor the adjacent roadways to ensure the safe and efficient operation of these roadways is not compromised.
18. The existing winter parking prohibition from October 17 and May 1 between 3:00 am to 6:00 am is to ensure the efficient removal of snow from City streets.
19. Vehicle speeds were studied on Mapleton Avenue with the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed being 60 km/hr and not considered to be excessive. A roadway is deemed to have excessive speeding when 85% of the motorists are travelling greater than 10 km/hr above the posted speed limit.
20. Staff recommends repainting the pavement markings on Mapleton Avenue to accommodate the proposed parking on the south side of the roadway, as per Appendix "B", similar to Ardagh Road west of Morrow Road. The proposed pavement marking will delineate general parking locations and provide additional guidance for motorists.
21. Staff recommends the replacement of the existing 25 km/hr speed advisory tabs located below the "Curve Warning" signs on Mapleton Avenue prior to the curve east of Warner Road/Boag Court with larger speed advisory tabs, as per the Ontario Traffic Manual.
22. Residents have expressed a concern with heavy trucks utilizing Mapleton Avenue as a "cut through", as it connects two arterial roadways in Essa Road and Veteran's Drive even though heavy trucks are prohibited from using this stretch of roadway. Staff recommends the installation of larger "No Heavy Truck" signs to replace the existing signs and add auxiliary signs on the opposite side of the roadway.
23. Residents have expressed concerns regarding Barrie Transit using Mapleton Avenue in this area instead of the adjacent arterial roadways. The bus route links two arterial roads and provides a direct link to major attractions, such as the Mapleview Drive Commercial area, Joan of Arch High School and the soon to be open Holly Recreation Centre. There are approximately 55 transit passenger trips generated from this area at this time with four buses per peak hour travelling on this roadway. Refer to Appendix "B" for bus stop locations.
24. Restructuring the transit routes from Mapleton Avenue will affect transit operations by introducing inefficient routing, additional run times affecting schedules and transfers and will make transit service less attractive to the public who use the public transit system. The transit drivers are trained professional drivers and respect resident's safety concerns.
25. Barrie Police Services and Municipal By-law Enforcement support the changes to By-law 80-138, regarding the proposed parking prohibition on Mapleton Avenue, as per the recommended Motion.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS**

26. There are no environmental matters related to the recommendation.

**ALTERNATIVES**

27. The following Alternatives are available for consideration by General Committee:

**Alternative #1**

General Committee could decide to leave the current parking prohibitions in place on Mapleton Avenue, between Essa Road and Veteran's Drive.

This Alternative is not recommended as parking on both sides of Mapleton Avenue creates operational and safety concerns for motorists and pedestrians.

**Alternative #2**

General Committee could decide to prohibit parking every day from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm on the south side of Mapleton Avenue, between Essa Road and Veteran's Drive.

This Alternative is not recommended as residents have expressed concerns of available parking spots for guests and/or vehicles on weekends that will now park on the side streets along Mapleton Avenue.

**FINANCIAL**

28. The installation of "No Parking", "No Heavy Truck" and speed advisory tab signs can be accommodated in the 2007 Operating Budget .

29. The repainting of Mapleton Avenue, between Essa Road and Veteran's Drive, to allow for the proposed parking prohibitions can be accommodated in the 2007 Operating Budget.

**LINKAGE TO COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

30. The recommendation included in this Staff Report is not specifically related to any of City Council's Strategic Priorities.



CITY HALL  
70 COLLIER STREET  
TEL. (705) 739-4207  
FAX. (705) 739-4247

P.O. BOX 400  
BARRIE, ONTARIO  
L4M 4T5

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE  
Engineering Department  
"Committed to Service Excellence"

April 11, 2007

File: T02-PA

To All Area Residents:

**RE: On-Street Parking Prohibition**

The City of Barrie has received a request to review the existing on-street parking regulations on Mapleton Avenue, between Veteran's Drive & Essa Road (see Figure 1 attached). Presently, parking is restricted on Mapleton Avenue, both sides, from Boag Court and Warner Road easterly for 100 metres, and overnight on-street parking is prohibited from **October 17 to May 1, between 3:00 am and 6:00 am** for the purpose of snow clearing.

Concerns have been raised by local residents about congestion resulting from regular on-street parking on Mapleton Avenue between Veteran's Drive & Essa Road. A site visit by City staff revealed that when on-street parking occurs on both sides of the roadway, it impedes the free flow of traffic. This compromises the efficiency of Emergency Services and maintenance vehicles and causes unsafe conditions when people exit their driveways. In an effort to provide safe traffic flow and roadway access, the City of Barrie is proposing to implement a Parking Prohibition on Mapleton Avenue between Veteran's Drive & Essa Road, as follows, and as indicated on the attached map.

- North side of Mapleton Avenue - proposed no parking anytime.
- South side of Mapleton Avenue - proposed no parking from 6:00 am – 8:00 pm.

Before a report is prepared for City Council, you are invited to express your opinion on this matter. Please take a moment to complete the attached Comment Sheet and return it to this office before **Friday, April 27, 2007**.

If you have any comments and/or concerns regarding these changes, please contact Mr. Steve Rose at (705) 739-4220, Ext. 4382, Fax (705) 739-4245 or E-mail [srose@barrie.ca](mailto:srose@barrie.ca) on, or before, **Friday, April 27, 2007**, and continue to be informed of the process.

Yours truly,

Steve Rose, C.E.T.  
Senior Traffic Technologist

Encls.

pc: Councillor John Brassard



Are you satisfied with the detail of information presented herein?

YES

NO

Comment:

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Do you wish to continue to be informed of the process to Restrict Parking on Mapleton Avenue between Veteran's Drive & Essa Road?

YES

NO

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit this Comment Sheet by **Friday, April 27, 2007** to:

Mr. Steve Rose, C.E.T.  
City of Barrie  
Engineering Department – 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
70 Collier Street, P.O. Box 400  
Barrie, Ontario  
L4M 4T5

Tel: (705) 739-4220, Ext. 4382  
Fax: (705) 739-4245  
E-mail: [srose@barrie.ca](mailto:srose@barrie.ca)

For further information, please contact the above.

**APPENDIX "B"**

**PROPOSED PARKING RESTRICTIONS & PAVEMENT MARKINGS**

