



To: Richmond City Council
From: Councillor Linda Barnes
Chair, Community Safety Committee
Re: **PARKING PROGRAM – ON-STREET – VETERANS’ PLATES, PERMIT FEES & COMMERCIAL VEHICLES**

Date: February 16th, 2005
File: 12-8060-20-
7890/2005-Vol 01

The Community Safety Committee, at its meeting held on Tuesday, February 15th, 2005, considered the attached report, and recommends as follows:

Committee Recommendation

That Traffic Regulation Bylaw No. 5870, Amendment Bylaw No. 7890, as amended in Clause (1) of Bylaw No. 7890 by deleting in the proposed subsection 12A.7, the figure ‘15’ and by substituting the figure ‘30’, be introduced and given first, second and third readings.

Councillor Linda Barnes, Chair
Community Safety Committee

Attach.

VARIANCE

Please note that staff recommended the following:

“.....the period November 1 to 15 inclusive.....”

Staff Report

Origin

Amendments to the City's Traffic Bylaw # 5870 are required to address the following:

1. the success of the Veterans' Plate complimentary parking program from November 1 to 15, 2004
2. the request for group purchases of on-street Parking Permits, and
3. the prevalence of large delivery trucks being parked on the street in residential neighbourhoods

Analysis

1. On November 1, 2004, Council passed Amendment Bylaw # 7828, which granted complimentary on-street parking in block meter zones to vehicles displaying veterans' licence plates specifically for the period from November 1 to 15, 2004. Given the success of the program and the resulting goodwill, staff believes that this should be an annual program to run from November 1 to 15 inclusive.
2. The Parking Program has received a number of requests from groups such as Coast Mountain Bus Company drivers and Provincial Court officials asking for a sliding discount off the existing fixed monthly rate of \$40.00 per on-street Parking Permit based on the volume purchased. This would also apply to on-street Parking Permit usage around the planned UBC Rowing Club development on River Road. Given the pending closure of the off-street parking facility at Westminster Hwy and Alderbridge Way, this would also allow us to offer a comparable discount to groups such as Lansdowne Pontiac Buick and the staff at the B.C. Ministry of Families and Child Development. These discounts would be granted on an availability basis and groups would be accommodated using existing Permit Zone inventory along Buswell Street, Cedarbridge Way or other locations.
3. Staff has been attempting to address a number of complaints regarding large cube vans and delivery trucks being parked on the street in residential neighbourhoods. In addition to the aesthetics of these bulky vehicles, there is a definite safety issue affecting pedestrians, cyclists and other drivers when a resident attempts to exit their driveway without sufficient sightlines.

The present definition of a Commercial Vehicle in the Traffic Bylaw refers only to the Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW) with respect to trucks and the number of passengers with respect to buses. The GVW is a declared number when the owner licences the vehicle with ICBC. Our experience has shown that many large delivery trucks are declared slightly below the existing 5,000 kg limit and escape the intent of many sections of the bylaw dealing with Commercial Vehicles. Any effort to lower this GVW limit within the bylaw would then affect many large personal pickup trucks or vans and the ability of owners to keep them at their residence. To address this issue, staff has researched the height of many classes of cars, minivans and SUV's and they are all at or below the

height of 2.0 metres (6.56 feet). Therefore, the amendment of the definition of a Commercial Vehicle in the Traffic Bylaw to include any vehicle over 2.25 metres (7.38 feet) would include many of the offending vehicles and facilitate effective enforcement.

We are also amending Schedule I to Bylaw No. 5870, to correct the reference to Section 12.9 and the applicable hours for commercial vehicles, which should read 7:00 am to 7:00 pm.

Financial Impact

1. The implementation of the complimentary parking for vehicles displaying the unique Veterans' Plates would appear to have had negligible impact on the Parking Program's revenue while providing significant benefit for a number of drivers and goodwill for the City of Richmond.
2. The ability to be able to market Parking Permits by applying a discount for significant group numbers would provide an additional revenue source from parking space inventory which is presently under utilized. The scope of additional revenue would depend on the number of Parking Permits sold to these groups.
3. There would be no financial impact to implementing a height limit on Commercial Vehicles as defined in Section 1.2 of the City's Traffic Bylaw.

Conclusion

Staff would recommend the following changes:

1. remove the reference to the specific year of 2004 for the exclusion of vehicles displaying Veterans' Plates as stated in Section 12A.7 of the Traffic Bylaw
2. amend Section 12B.5 to indicate that \$40.00 plus taxes is the maximum monthly fee to be paid for a parking decal which validates a parking permit
3. amend the definition of Commercial Vehicle in Section 1.2 to include a height of more than 2.25 metres (7.38 feet) and the referenced hours applicable to Commercial Vehicles in Schedule I.



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WGM:wgm



Traffic Bylaw No. 5870, Amendment Bylaw No. 7890

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. Bylaw No. 5870 is amended by deleting subsection 12A.7 and substituting the following:

12A.7 On an annual basis, during the period November 1 to 30 inclusive, the provisions of Section 12.A do not apply to any **vehicle** displaying a British Columbia veteran's specialty licence plate.

2. Bylaw No. 5870 is amended by deleting subsection 12B.5 and substituting the following:

12B.5 The maximum fee for a **permit decal** to validate a **parking permit** issued under subsection 12B.2 is \$40.00 per month plus applicable taxes.

3. Bylaw No. 5870 is amended by deleting **commercial vehicle** and substituting the following interpretation to subsection 1.2:

commercial vehicle

means a motor vehicle used for the transportation of persons, freight or for artisan use that is:

- (a) a truck or truck tractor with a licensed gross vehicle weight of 5,000 kg or greater; or
- (b) a truck or truck tractor with a maximum height in excess of 2.25 metres; or
- (c) a bus with seating capacity greater than nine persons.

4. Bylaw No. 5870 is amended by deleting subsection 12.8 and substituting the following:

12.8 No person shall park a **commercial vehicle**, or combination of vehicles, between the hours of 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. of the following day on any highway.

5. Level III of Schedule I to Bylaw No. 5870 is amended by deleting the reference to subsections 12.9 and substituting the following:

12.9 Parking of **commercial vehicle**, or combination of vehicles, for longer than 3 hours between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on any highway, abutting any property used for business purposes.

6. This Bylaw is cited as “**Traffic Bylaw No. 5870, Amendment Bylaw No. 7890**”.

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

CITY OF RICHMOND
APPROVED for content by originating dept.
APPROVED for legality by Solicitor

MAYOR

CITY CLERK