



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee
From: Don Pearson
 Manager, Community Bylaws
Re: **Vehicle for Hire Bylaw Amendments**

Date: March 8 2005
File:

Staff Recommendation

THAT the following amendment bylaws be given first, second and third reading:

1. Amendment Bylaw 7924, which amends Vehicle for Hire Bylaw No. 6900
2. Amendment Bylaw 7925, which amends Municipal Information Ticket Authorization Bylaw No. 7321.

Don Pearson
 Manager, Community Bylaws
 (4269)

FOR ORIGINATING DIVISION USE ONLY			
ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
Business Licences	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		
Law	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>		
REVIEWED BY TAG	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REVIEWED BY CAO	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Staff Report

Origin

This report is the result of the requirement to revise the wording of the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw to allow for consistency throughout the Bylaw, which relates to the towing of vehicles from private parking lots. As well, the amendments will assist the Bylaw Enforcement Officers in their investigation into complaints relating to towed vehicles.

Findings Of Fact

There have been difficulties investigating complaints relating to the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw because of time frames currently included in the Bylaw and, also, there is a need to ensure sign requirements are consistent within the Bylaw.

Currently, the Bylaw requires that a tow away notice be retained by the towing company for a period of 30 days but often complaints relating to towed vehicles are not received within that time frame. The change from 30 to 90 days will ensure this document is available to bylaw officers and will allow for the full investigation of towing complaints. The tow-away notice is often the document that initiated the tow and contains information about who authorized the removal of the vehicle and the reason the car was towed.

Private parking lots require both a tow company information sign that provides relevant information on the towing company authorized to tow vehicles from the lot and a tow-away warning sign that indicates the circumstances under which vehicles may be towed. The amendments correct inconsistencies within the Bylaw regarding these signs.

Analysis

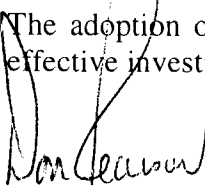
Requiring a Tow Truck Company to retain its Tow-away Notices for a 90-day period will allow the Bylaw Enforcement Officers the opportunity to investigate any public complaints.

Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

The adoption of these amendments will ensure consistency within the Bylaw, and provide an effective investigative tool for the Bylaw Enforcement Officers.


Tracy Christopherson
Bylaw Liaison Officer
(4073)
TC:tc



Vehicle for Hire Bylaw No. 6900, Amendment Bylaw No. 7924

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. Bylaw No. 6900 is amended by deleting subsection 6.3.2 (b) and substituting the following:
“6.3.2 (b) a tow company information sign is clearly displayed adjacent to the **no parking area** which:”
2. Bylaw No. 6900 is amended by deleting subsection 6.3.7 and substituting the following:
“6.3.7 Before any vehicles may be towed from a private **parking lot**, the property owner must apply for a towing permit by submitting the following to the **Licence Inspector**:
 - (a) a detailed site plan showing the proposed placement and the means of visibility in non-daylight hours of:
 - (i) the towing company information signs described under subsection 6.3.4; and
 - (ii) the tow-away warning signs required under subsection 6.3.5;for approval by the **Licence Inspector**; and
 - (b) a non-refundable towing permit fee of \$50.”
3. Bylaw No. 6900 is amended by deleting subsection 6.3.8 and substituting the following:
“6.3.8 Before a towing permit under subsection 6.3.7 will be issued, the **Licence Inspector** must conduct a site inspection of the private **parking lot** and where more than two inspections are necessary, the non-refundable fee for each inspection after the second inspection is \$25.”
4. Bylaw No. 6900 is amended by adding subsection 6.3.9A:
“6.3.9A A towing permit issued pursuant to subsection 6.3.7 may be suspended or revoked by the **Licence Inspector** if, at anytime, the **parking lot** does not comply with the requirements of the towing permit.”

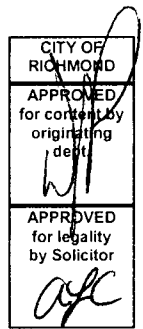
- 5. Bylaw No. 6900 is amended by deleting subsection 6.3.10 (a) (i) and substituting the following:
 "6.3.10 (a) (i) complete Part B of the Tow-away Notice; and must, at the time of removal of the vehicle, sign both copies, print his name, and leave the duplicate copy on the windshield of the towed vehicle; and"
- 6. Bylaw No. 6900 is amended by deleting subsection 6.3.10 (a) (ii) and substituting the following:
 "6.3.10 (a) (ii) retain the original copy for a period of 90 days for inspection upon request, by the **Licence Inspector**;"
- 7. Bylaw No. 6900 is amended by deleting subsection 6.5.1 (e) and substituting the following:
 "6.5.1 (e) remove the original copy of the Tow-away Notice from the towed vehicle and retain it for a period of 90 days for inspection, upon request, by the **Licence Inspector**."
- 8. This Bylaw is cited as "**Vehicle For Hire Bylaw No. 6900, Amendment Bylaw No. 7924**".

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED



MAYOR

CITY CLERK



**Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw No. 7321,
Amendment Bylaw No. 7925**

The Council of the City of Richmond enacts as follows:

1. Bylaw No. 7321 is amended by deleting Schedule B 13 and substituting the following:

Schedule B 13

VEHICLE FOR HIRE BYLAW NO. 7924

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Offence	Bylaw Section	Fine
Failure to submit a vehicle for inspection, upon receiving notification	3.1.1	\$100
Failure to display a Chauffeur's Permit	3.3.1(e)	\$ 50
Operating with unsealed taximeter	3.6.3	\$100
Failure to display a tariff card	3.7.1(a)	\$100
Obstructing or attaching a vehicle which is occupied	6.2.2(c) 6.3.8(d)	\$100
Towing a vehicle which is occupied	6.2.2(c) 6.3.8(d)	\$100
Towing a vehicle without a completed Tow-away Notice	6.3.1(b)	\$100
Overcharging for vehicle release from private parking lots	6.3.6(b)	\$100
Failure to produce a Tow-away Notice	6.3.10(a)(ii) 6.5.1(e)	\$100
Failure to retain or make daily records available for inspection	6.5.2	\$100
Overcharging for towing from private parking lots	6.6.1	\$100
Overcharging for storage during impoundment	6.6.1	\$100
Overcharging for towing from a scene of accident	6.6.2	\$100

2. This Bylaw is cited as "Municipal Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw No. 7321 Amendment Bylaw No. 7925".

FIRST READING

SECOND READING

THIRD READING

ADOPTED

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

MAYOR

CITY CLERK