



City of
Peterborough

To: **Members of the General Committee**

From: **Cynthia Fletcher**
Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services

Meeting Date: **October 15, 2019**

Subject: **Report IPSTR19-023**
Designation of Parking Lot at Library Commons

Purpose

A report to recommend designation of the Parking Lot at Library Commons in the Parking By-Law and to establish an hourly parking fee and a two-hour parking limit.

Recommendation

That Council approves the recommendation outlined in Report IPSTR19-023 dated October 15, 2019, of the Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services, as follows:

That the new Parking Lot at Library Commons located at 359 Aylmer Street North be added to the Parking By-Law and that a By-law be approved to amend the appropriate Schedules and Articles of Parking By-law 09-136.

Budget and Financial Implications

Implementation of recommendations will cost approximately \$500 for the installation of a pay and display machine and associated signage at the Parking Lot at Library Commons, funds for which are available in the approved 2019 Capital Budget for Parking Equipment Purchases (budget reference 5-17.02).

New parking revenues are estimated to be approximately \$21,000 annually. The amount is estimated to be the same as the annual revenue as the Library parking spaces that were removed along Bethune Street. The revenue helps offset the cost of parking enforcement.

Background

The Peterborough Public Library underwent renovations which commenced in May, 2016 and have now been completed. Part of the renovation project included purchasing the property at 359 Aylmer Street north to create a public gathering space, public art display area, and a small parking lot to serve the Library. The lot consists of twelve parking spaces, comprised of four accessible spaces and eight standard spaces, which essentially will replace the angle parking spaces along the east side of Bethune Street that will be removed during the Bethune Street reconstruction. The new lot will be serviced by a pay and display machine, and customers can also pay for their parking in this lot using the HotSpot mobile parking app. The pay and display machine will be located in close proximity to the accessible spaces.

There is paid on-street parking surrounding the library, which is posted at the standard two-hour limit used for other downtown on-street parking locations. There are 12 angle spaces on the east side of Bethune Street, behind the Library, and two free parking spaces on the west side of Bethune Street, which are restricted to one hour. It is anticipated that these parking spaces will be eliminated as part of the Bethune Street reconstruction.

Through discussion with library staff it was determined that a parking strategy designed to encourage a quick turn over in use of the spaces would best serve the operational needs and library staff have requested a two-hour limit for this new lot. This would create available parking for those wishing a short-term visit and would provide sufficient time for those attending most daytime programs at the Library. The two-hour restriction would prevent people that work in the downtown from parking in this lot all day. The Simcoe Street parking garage is within a short walk of the Library and has capacity to accommodate parking for longer time requirements.

The proposed parking fee structure for this lot will be consistent with other municipal downtown parking lots, with the \$1.25 hourly rate applied between the hours of 9:00 am and 6:00 pm, Monday to Friday. This lot would also be included in the annual downtown Free Parking promotion held during the Christmas season, which has been accounted for in \$21,000 annual revenue projections. Library patrons would receive free parking in the weekday evening hours, after 6:00 pm, on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays. This

arrangement is the same as other lots in the downtown, however the two-hour limit would apply at all times to encourage turnover in use of these spaces and avoid overnight parking in this lot.

Timelines

If the recommendations are approved, associated signage will be arranged in late fall. Enforcement of the parking time limits in this lot will commence in early November 2019. Given that the downtown free parking promotion typically starts in late November, it is anticipated that paid parking in this lot will commence in January 2020.

Summary

As part of the Library renovation project, a new parking lot for Library patrons was constructed on the adjacent lot located at 359 Aylmer Street North. Paid parking in this lot will provide a revenue stream to offset the future loss of metered parking on Bethune Street, and the implementation of a two-hour parking limit will encourage turnover in usage of the lot to ensure that these convenient parking spaces are available to Library patrons seeking short term parking. The proposed amendments to the Parking By-Law 09-136 are required to implement this parking control strategy.

Submitted by,

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Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services

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