



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**To:** **Members of the General Committee**

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

**Meeting Date:** **June 14, 2021**

**Subject:** **Report IPSTR21-010**  
**Changes to Parking Restrictions on University Road and**  
**Ackison Road**

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## **Purpose**

A report to recommend the implementation of parking restrictions on portions of University Road and Ackison Road, to improve safety.

## **Recommendations**

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report IPSTR21-010 dated June 14, 2021, of the Commissioner of Infrastructure and Planning Services, as follows:

That Parking By-Law 09 -136 be amended to affect the following:

- a) No Parking Anytime restrictions be implemented on both sides of University Road, between Nassau Mills Road and the City limit; and
- b) No Parking Anytime restrictions be implemented on both sides of Ackison Road from 10 m north of the Trans-Canada Trail crossing south for 200 m.

## **Budget and Financial Implications**

Implementation of the parking restrictions on University Road and Ackison Road will cost approximately \$2,000, funds for which are available in the 2021 annual sign maintenance budget.

## **Background**

### **University Road Parking Concerns**

University Road, between Nassau Mills Road and the City limit, which is approximately 1 km south of Nassau Mills Road, has no formal parking restrictions in place. Motorists are only subject to the default 3-hour limit for on-street parking as defined in the Parking By-law 09-136.

University Road is a two-lane arterial road that is approximately 6.3 m wide without no sidewalks. The posted speed limit is 50 km/h. The Trent Wildlife Sanctuary is located on both sides of a portion of the road and there are a number of walking trails on both sides of University Road. There is an unpaved parking lot on the east side of University Road that is maintained by Trent University, which accommodates approximately 20 vehicles. Pedestrians frequently cross the road to access both areas of the sanctuary. There is no designated cross walk.

On street parking in the vicinity of the Trent Wildlife Sanctuary continues to create safety concerns for pedestrians, primarily due to the frequent parking of vehicles on both sides of the road and particularly in the vicinity of the parking lot for the Sanctuary. These safety concerns have been brought to the attention of both Trent University and the City's Parking Division.

With the onset of spring weather and the continued lock down of the community, use of the walking trails in the Wildlife Sanctuary have increased dramatically. Vehicles parked on both sides of the road are creating both visibility issues for pedestrians crossing University Road, as well as congestion impacting traffic flow due to the narrow width of the pavement surface. While the use of the trails and on road parking is currently heightened, the safety concerns have been ongoing and frequent during "business as usual" times.

### **Ackison Road Parking Concerns**

Ackison Road is a two-lane roadway linking Brealey Drive and Parkhill Road, with Lily Lake Road and County Road 27. Ackison Road is not formally designated in Schedule B of the Official Plan, but it operates like an arterial road. Within the City, the roadway is approximately 7.0 m wide with very narrow soft shoulders. The posted speed limit within

the City portion of Ackison Road is 50 km/h, which changes to 60 km/h as one enters the County, just north of the trail crossing.

A safety concern has been raised with respect to the Trans-Canada trail crossing of Ackison Road. This trail crossing is located approximately 10 m south of the north limit of the City, and parking activity has been observed on both sides of the road, north of the trail crossing (along the County portion of Ackison Road), and to the south of the trail crossing within the City limits. Staff from the City, County, Otonabee Conservation Authority, and Selwyn Township have met in the past to explore opportunities to implement offsite parking solutions to address this issue, however the availability of suitable municipally owned lands has been a barrier. The county has installed “no parking” restrictions to the north of the Trans Canada Trail crossing, within their portion of Ackison Road.

This change has caused vehicles to park to the south of the trail where the boulevard is much narrower. Despite the restrictions in place on the north side of the trail, vehicles continue to park in this area as well. The County provides limited enforcement of the restrictions within their jurisdiction, and as a result there is no deterrent to discourage parking in this area. Use of the Trans Canada Trail has also been increasing during this period of lockdown, which has increased the severity and frequency of the parked vehicles blocking visibility of trail users.

Several trail users have expressed concerns about restricted sight lines due to parked cars in both areas. Staff have reviewed this area and are recommending implementing a “no parking at any time” restriction on Ackison Road, from the existing City limit, south for a distance of 200 m, in order to improve visibility for trail users attempting to cross Ackison Road.

## Summary

On-street parking in the vicinity of trails through natural areas has been an ongoing problem. Due to the current Provincial restrictions, there is an increased use of many of these public trails in natural areas, which has increased the frequency and extent of the on-street parking in the vicinity of these areas and in turn has created additional safety risk for users. In consultation with the County of Peterborough and Trent University, and to address the safety concerns expressed by the public it is recommended that no parking restrictions be implemented on University Road and Ackison Road as described in this report.

Submitted by,

Cynthia Fletcher  
Commissioner, Infrastructure and Planning Services

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**Attachments:**

Appendix A – University Road (aerial view of property)

Appendix B – Ackison Road (aerial view of property)

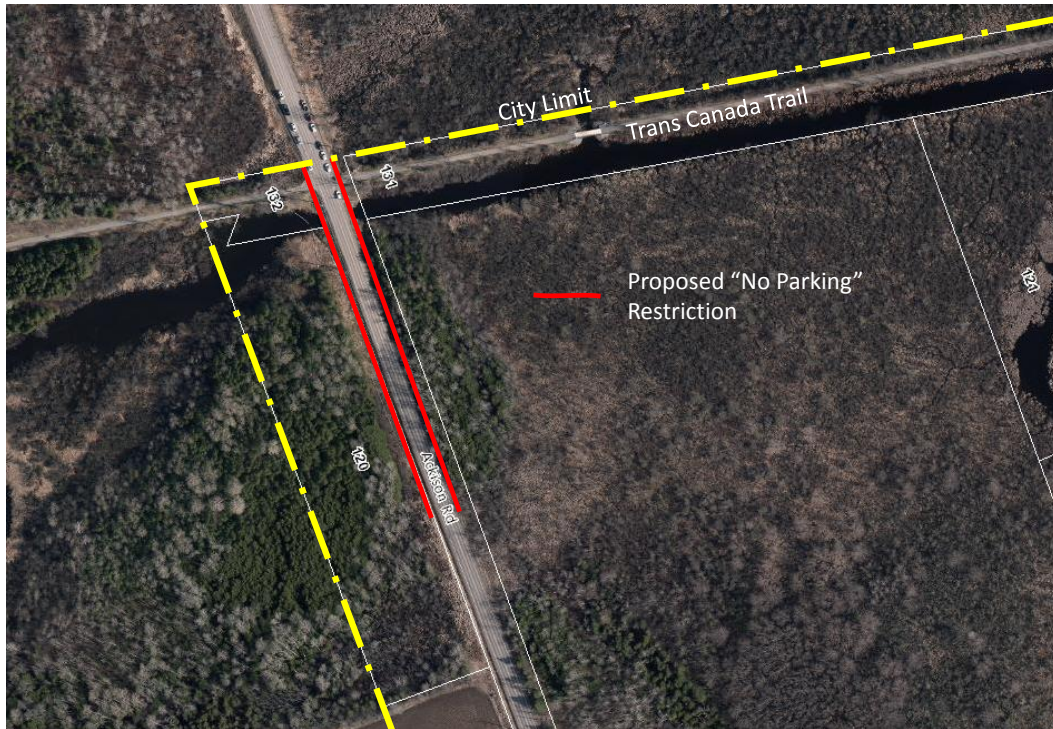
## Appendix A – University Road



View along University Road at Entrance to Sanctuary  
Parking Lot



## Appendix B – Ackison Road



View along Ackison Road at Trans Canada Trail Crossing

