



Date 5 May 2011

## City Council Committee Report

To: Mayor Canfield & Members of Council

Fr: Karen Brown

Re: Parking on Lakeview Drive – Farmers’ Market

### Recommendation:

**That** Council hereby approves an amendment to the Traffic Regulation By-law to allow parking along the south side of Lakeview Drive on the paved shoulder along the greenbelt from 190 metres west of the Roundabout, westerly for 160 metres on Wednesdays only for the period from June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 through to September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011; and

**That** the City of Kenora Traffic Regulation By-law 127-2001 be amended to include the following changes to Schedule “B” – No Parking Areas – Tow Away Zone and to Schedule “C” – Limited /Restricted Parking – Lakeview Drive:-

### Schedule “B” No Parking Areas – Tow Away Zone

<u>Column 1</u> STREET/HIGHWAY	<u>Column 2</u> LOCATION	<u>Column 3</u> SIDE	<u>Column 4</u> TIME
<u>Delete:</u>			
Lakeview Drive	From Main Street South to 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	Both	Anytime
<u>Add:</u>			
Lakeview Drive	From the Roundabout to 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	North	Anytime
Lakeview Drive	From the Roundabout to 190 metres westerly	South	Anytime
Lakeview Drive	From 190 metres west of the Roundabout westerly for 160 metres	South	Sunday-Tuesday Thursday-Saturday
Lakeview Drive	From 350 metres west of the Roundabout to 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	South	Anytime

**Schedule "C" Limited /Restricted Parking**

<u>Column 1</u> STREET	<u>Column 2</u> LOCATION	<u>Column 3</u> SIDE	<u>Column 4</u> RESTRICTION
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**Add:**

Lakeview Drive	From 190 metres west of the Roundabout westerly for 160 metres	South	2 hours Wednesdays ;and further
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**That** this amendment be implemented on "a temporary basis only" for the period starting June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 up to and including September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**Background:**

In 2011, the new tent area on the Harbourfront will be erected, making this the last summer that the old tent will be placed on the South parking lot at the Harbourfront. As in 2010, the plan is to erect the tent and leave it standing for the summer (or at least until the new tent structure is available on the North side of the Harbourfront). In 2009, the tent was left up for the entire summer for the first time, and the parking lot area under the tent was used when there were no events being held in the tent. Following a review of the summer operations on the Harbourfront in 2009, a recommendation was approved by Council that, while the tent remain up for the summer of 2010, parking not be allowed under the tent.

For 2011, the City is proposing that displaced parking resulting from the large tent being erected in the South Harbourfront parking lot will be treated in much the same manner as was done in 2010, with some minor adjustments being worked out by staff. It is recognized, however, that when the tent is up, the parking spaces in the South parking lot are significantly reduced, resulting in increased parking congestion in the downtown core. This is particularly true on Wednesdays when the Farmers' Market occurs on the Harbourfront. As a result, the Kenora Assembly of Resources (KAR) has requested Council consideration that the South side of Lakeview Drive adjacent to the Harbourfront be opened up for parking on Wednesdays to coincide with the Farmers' Market days.

In late 2009, the Operations department reviewed the option of providing parking on the South side of Lakeview Drive in 2010. The original intent of this option was to provide for parking for displaced parking patrons from the South Harbourfront parking lot. This recommendation was not approved by Council, and the South Harbourfront parking lot patrons were accommodated in other areas in 2010.

In reviewing the request from KAR, input was requested from the Detachment Commander of the OPP, the City's Operations Department as well as the City's Deputy Clerk with regards to By-law enforcement.

With regards to the OPP and related comments, the following should be noted:

- Parking should be allowed only on the lake or South side of Lakeview Drive in order to ensure access for emergency vehicles through this area in the event of heavy traffic congestion
- City traffic regulation by-law must be amended to reflect the proposed changes
- There will be heavier traffic congestion in the summer because of this and therefore increased complaints – people will have to be patient as the OPP cannot have a full time officer on Lakeview Drive directing traffic to alleviate any congestion issues
- City should consider signage on both sides of the road, clearly indicating where parking is and is not allowed, and during what times
- Lakewood School would be a better alternative to provide additional parking for the Farmers' Market

It is true that Lakewood School remains an ideal alternative for downtown parking congestion. While the City does not have an agreement with the School Board to use this area for parking, individuals do access it on their own accord during the summer months. In the past, however, the Farmers' Market patrons have generally not used this area for parking.

Future phases of the City's downtown revitalization plan include the option for providing metered parallel parking along Lakeview Drive in the same area. Providing this option in 2011 will provide the City with an excellent opportunity to evaluate the success or failure of using this area on a permanent basis. In addition, keeping the date to Wednesday's only will help reduce congestion related to Friday afternoon traffic during the City's prime tourist season. The speed limit of 50 km/h along this area was felt to be reasonable to allow the parking. Both sides of the road will be clearly signed to reflect what is allowed within the amended By-law.

The City's Operations Department has reviewed this proposal, and determined what location would be appropriate to allow parking along the South side of Lakeview Drive on Wednesday's. A copy of a drawing reflecting the proposed parking area has been attached for your reference. As noted in the drawing, this area will provide an additional parking capacity of about 24 vehicles. Operations has also determined the appropriate signage and developed the required language for amending the Traffic Regulation By-law.

The Deputy Clerk has confirmed that there will be no issue with regards to enforcement, provided that the City updates its traffic by-law as appropriate. By-law enforcement officers will chalk tires and levy fines in accordance with any approved amendments and related provisions. This area is not currently metered, and due to the temporary nature of this arrangement, costs related to metering are not being proposed. Rather, this area would be a free parking zone, provided users remained within the proposed 2 hour limit.

Increased spots would be intended to provide relief for Farmers' Market traffic only. As such, it is recommended that a maximum parking period of two hours would be used. This would eliminate the issue of individuals using this area to park for work and walk downtown. In addition, this is only recommended to alleviate traffic issues resulting from the use of the South Harbourfront parking lot for the tent and during Farmers' Market days. As such, it is recommended that this accommodation only be provided on Wednesdays between the period of June 22<sup>nd</sup> to September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

**Budget:**

Proposed parking in this area could be developed for a minimal cost – represented by the costs of signage and related posts.

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

Resolution and By-law required.