

City of Mississauga
Corporate Report



<p>Date: September 19, 2025</p> <p>To: Chair and Members of General Committee</p>	<p>Originator's files:</p>
<p>From: Sam Rogers, MBA, Commissioner of Transportation and Works</p>	<p>Meeting date: October 1, 2025</p>

Subject

Proposed amendments to Traffic By-law 0555-2000 to Support Winter Maintenance Operations.

Recommendation

1. That the Traffic By-law 0555-2000, as amended, be further amended, to introduce a citywide winter parking restriction, as set out in Appendix 1 of the Corporate Report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated September 10, 2025, entitled "Proposed amendments to Traffic By-law 0555-2000 to Support Winter Maintenance Operations."
2. That Administrative Penalty By-law 0282-2013, as amended, be further amended, to establish a penalty for vehicles parked in contravention of the citywide winter parking restriction in the amount of \$150.00, as set out in the Corporate Report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated September 10, 2025, entitled "Proposed amendments to Traffic By-law 0555-2000 to Support Winter Maintenance Operations."
3. That all necessary by-laws be enacted.

Executive Summary

- On-street parking during winter weather events poses a challenge to winter maintenance operations. With the introduction of residential driveway windrow clearing for the 2025/2026 winter season, on-street parking directly adjacent to driveways will prevent driveway windrow clearing from occurring.
- In the current state, on-street parking is allowed for a maximum of 5 hours in unsigned areas, while it is restricted between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. Other than temporary and monthly parking permit cancellations during a winter weather event, there

are no other restrictions related to winter maintenance activities.

As per the recommendations in Budget Committee report dated October 31, 2024 and entitled *Winter Maintenance Program - Additional Service Options - Updated 2024 Costs*, staff conducted a review of potential amendments to the Traffic By-law pertaining to winter maintenance parking restrictions, for Council's consideration.

- Staff recommend that the Traffic By-law 0555-2000 be amended to introduce a "Citywide Winter Parking Restriction" when declared by the City, during winter maintenance operations that require plowing. This option takes a weather-based approach and balances operational effectiveness for winter maintenance, while preserving on-street parking for residents outside of winter events.
- Should Council approve the proposed amendments, a new \$150 administrative parking penalty will be introduced to enforce the "Citywide Winter Parking Restriction."

Background

In November 2024, through the Budget Committee Report dated October 31, 2024 and entitled *Winter Maintenance Program - Additional Service Options - Updated 2024 Costs*, Council approved the expansion of winter maintenance services to include residential driveway windrow clearing, secondary sidewalk clearing, and bicycle lane snow removal. As part of this approval, staff were directed to review and recommend revisions to the Traffic By-law, with respect to on-street parking provisions, to support the new services.

Currently, Traffic By-law 0555-2000 does not include specific on-street parking restrictions related to winter maintenance activities. On-street parking is permitted year-round in signed areas (15-hour maximum zones), and in unsigned areas for up to 5 hours, provided no other restrictions apply (e.g., proximity to fire hydrants or intersections). Exceptions exist for statutory holidays, religious observances, and where temporary or monthly parking permits have been issued. Parking restrictions do apply to unsigned areas where vehicles are parked for more than 5 hours and citywide, from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Currently, only temporary and monthly permits are cancelled during winter events requiring plowing operations, to facilitate snow clearing and maintain roadway accessibility.

Staff have assessed several options for managing on-street parking during winter events, which are outlined in detail later in this report. Additionally, staff have conducted benchmarking with other comparable municipalities and have evaluated the options with a lens to improve operational efficiency and service delivery, while balancing the need for resident on-street parking. This report provides an overview of the parking options evaluated, benchmarking with other municipalities and a recommendation on winter parking restrictions.

Comments

On-street parking presents a significant challenge to winter maintenance activities, particularly during plowing operations, which are typically triggered when the City receives 5 cm or more of snow accumulation. The large equipment required for snow clearing cannot safely maneuver around parked vehicles, and in many cases, the space left between vehicles parked on opposite sides of the street is too narrow for plows to pass through. This results in safety issues, operational inefficiencies, increased costs, time delays, and uncleared roadways. During a typical winter season, the City of Mississauga experiences between four and eight plowing events, with plowing operations spanning a total of approximately ten to fifteen days. In the 2024/2025 winter season, the City of Mississauga conducted four plowing operations, which collectively lasted approximately ten days.

The introduction of residential driveway windrow clearing further increases the need for unobstructed access to driveways. Vehicles parked adjacent to driveways or on the lower driveway boulevard directly prevent the delivery of this service. As such, the expansion of winter maintenance services significantly heightens the importance of clear roadways to ensure effective and timely delivery of winter maintenance services.

Benchmarking

Staff have reviewed a number of comparable municipalities within Ontario, which include Barrie, Brampton, Burlington, Guelph, Hamilton, London, Markham, Milton, Oakville, Oshawa, Ottawa, Richmond Hill, Toronto and Vaughan (Appendix 2). All of the municipalities reviewed have implemented some form of winter parking restriction, which include parking restrictions when a winter event is declared, penalties related to impeding winter maintenance activities or a combination of partial restrictions including prohibiting overnight parking or prohibiting parking within designated “snow routes.” These restrictions include fines of various amounts ranging from \$30 to \$150 for an initial infraction. By comparison, Mississauga currently has no comparable winter parking restrictions.

Evaluation of Feasible Options

In review of the feasible options, staff considered operational effectiveness and on-street parking need. In consultation with Traffic Management and Municipal Parking staff, all options were evaluated with consideration for preserving existing signed parking areas, particularly those with a 15-hour maximum allowance. These areas are generally located where private residential parking is limited and do not directly interfere with residential driveway access. In addition, angle parking, parking for restricted periods, parking machines (on-street paid parking spaces), car share parking spaces, commercial vehicle loading zones, and taxi-cab stands are not included as part of the proposed restrictions as these areas are generally located in commercial areas. On-street parking for the disabled is also not considered for winter parking restriction due to the need to maintain accessibility for those in need.

Lower driveway boulevard parking, where permitted, was excluded from the evaluated options. Permitted lower driveway boulevard parking allows vehicles to be positioned off of the roadway. While this does prevent windrow clearing in front of the driveway, the impact is limited to those residents who choose to park on their lower driveway boulevard.

The City’s Traffic By-law already prohibits parking on driveways in a manner that obstructs or overhangs onto the sidewalk. As a result, the Traffic By-law in its current state provides the necessary enforcement tools to ensure sidewalks remain clear and accessible, preventing interference with sidewalk winter maintenance.

1) Introduction of Parking Restrictions During Winter Event (Recommended Option)

On-street parking would be restricted when declared by the City during a winter event where roadway plowing is required. On-street parking would continue to be allowed in signed 15-hour maximum parking areas, however, all other on-street parking would not be allowed. In addition, exemptions for statutory holidays, religious observances and temporary/monthly parking permits will be cancelled.

This approach balances operational effectiveness for winter maintenance and preserves on-street parking for residents outside of winter events. Staff recommend this option as the best approach to balance the competing priorities.

Parking Allowed	Parking Not Allowed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with signed parking allowance Schedule 1 (i.e. 15-hour maximum) <p style="text-align: center;">In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angle Parking Schedule 2, Section 10 • Parking for Restricted Periods Schedule 5 • Parking Machines Schedule 7A, Section 21A • Car Share Parking Spaces Schedule 38, Section 21C • Commercial Vehicle Loading Zones Schedule 22, Section 39 • Taxicab Stands Schedule 23, Section 40 • Designated On-street Parking for Disabled Schedule 29, Section 51 • Driveway Boulevard Parking Curb to Sidewalk Schedule 31 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No on-street parking during a declared winter event • Exemption for statutory holidays and religious observances cancelled when declared by City • Temporary and extended parking permits cancelled when declared by City

2) Seasonal Parking Ban from November 15th to April 15th

On-street parking would be banned seasonally from November 15th to April 15th under this option. On-street parking would continue to be allowed in signed 15-hour maximum parking areas, however, all other on-street parking would not be allowed. In addition, exemptions for statutory holidays, religious observances and temporary/monthly parking permits are cancelled when declared by the City, during a winter weather event requiring plowing.

Prohibiting on-street parking throughout the winter months is impractical and does not adequately consider public on-street parking requirements. As a result, staff do not recommend pursuing this option further.

Parking Allowed	Parking Not Allowed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with signed parking allowance Schedule 1 (i.e.15-hour maximum) <p style="text-align: center;">In Addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angle Parking Schedule 2, Section 10 • Parking for Restricted Periods Schedule 5 • Parking Machines Schedule 7A, Section 21A • Car Share Parking Spaces Schedule 38, Section 21C • Commercial Vehicle Loading Zones Schedule 22, Section 39 • Taxicab Stands Schedule 23, Section 40 • Designated On-street Parking for Disabled Schedule 29, Section 51 • Driveway Boulevard Parking Curb to Sidewalk Schedule 31 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No on-street parking from November 15th to April 15th, annually • Exemption for statutory holidays and religious observances cancelled when declared by City • Temporary and extended parking permits cancelled when declared by City

3) On-Street Parking Restricted Overnight (Midnight–8:00 am) as Declared by the City

On-street parking would be restricted from midnight to 8 a.m., when a winter event is declared, expanding the current 2:00 a.m. – 6:00 a.m. overnight on-street parking restriction by four hours. On-street parking would continue to be allowed in signed 15-hour maximum parking areas, however, all other on-street parking would not be allowed during this period. Exemptions for statutory holidays and religious observances remain in place. Temporary/monthly parking permits are cancelled when declared by the City.

Extending on-street parking restrictions by an additional four overnight hours falls short of assisting with operational requirements. Plowing operations can span over multiple days in

heavy or back-to-back snowfalls and an eight-hour window would not be of adequate benefit to operations. As a result, staff do not recommend pursuing this option further.

Parking Allowed	Parking Not Allowed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with signed parking allowance (i.e. 15-hour maximum) • 5-hour maximum in all other unsigned areas • Exemption for statutory holidays and religious observances <p style="text-align: center;">In Addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angle Parking Schedule 2, Section 10 • Parking for Restricted Periods Schedule 5 • Parking Machines Schedule 7A, Section 21A • Car Share Parking Spaces Schedule 38, Section 21C • Commercial Vehicle Loading Zones Schedule 22, Section 39 • Taxicab Stands Schedule 23, Section 40 • Designated On-street Parking for Disabled Schedule 29, Section 51 • Driveway Boulevard Parking Curb to Sidewalk Schedule 31 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. when declared by the City • Temporary and extended parking permits cancelled when declared by City

4) On-Street Parking Seasonally Restricted to One Side of Street (November 15 to April 15)

On-street parking would be restricted to one side of the street from November 15th to April 15th. Exemptions for statutory holidays, religious observances and temporary/monthly parking permits are cancelled when declared by the City.

This option precludes roadway plowing and windrow removal on the side of the roadway where parking is allowed. Additionally, installing signage to inform residents of no-parking zones would be done at a significant cost. As a result, staff do not recommend pursuing this option further.

Parking Allowed	Parking Not Allowed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas with signed parking allowance (i.e. 15-hour maximum) • Areas with signed seasonal parking during winter months (i.e. single side of street on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. • Temporary and extended parking permits cancelled when declared by City

<p>most residential roadways)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exemption for statutory holidays and religious observances limited to areas with signed seasonal parking (i.e. single side of street on most residential roads) <p style="text-align: center;">In Addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Angle Parking Schedule 2, Section 10 • Parking for Restricted Periods Schedule 5 • Parking Machines Schedule 7A, Section 21A • Car Share Parking Spaces Schedule 38, Section 21C • Commercial Vehicle Loading Zones Schedule 22, Section 39 • Taxicab Stands Schedule 23, Section 40 • Designated On-street Parking for Disabled Schedule 29, Section 51 • Driveway Boulevard Parking Curb to Sidewalk Schedule 31 	
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Communications

A comprehensive winter maintenance communications and educational campaign is being finalized and will be implemented in the weeks ahead. Changes to parking restrictions related to winter maintenance operations, as outlined in Traffic By-law 0555-2000, will be clearly communicated through targeted campaign materials.

Communicating when winter maintenance related parking restrictions are in place will be critical to notifying residents of the restrictions and to achieve greater compliance with the amended parking restrictions. To do this effectively, when a “Citywide Winter Parking Restriction” is declared, multiple communication methods will be used. This includes:

- i) posting notice of the restriction on the City’s official public internet website;
- ii) posting notice of the restriction on social media and/or
- iii) providing notice through any other communication method that the City may utilize, including but not limited to subscription-based email or text messaging services.

Staff are working to implement a subscription-based notification service that residents may subscribe to in order to receive updates on when a “Citywide Winter Parking Restriction” is in effect and when it has been cancelled.

Enforcement

The report's recommendation on proposed amendments to the Traffic By-law requires greater enforcement of vehicles parked on-street during a winter event. In the current state, Parking Enforcement Officers can only issue infractions to vehicles parked for a period greater than 5 hours or between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. To support the recommended option and subsequent by-law amendments, a new \$150 administrative parking penalty will be introduced to address violations related to on-street parking during a declared "Citywide Winter Parking Restriction." This amount aligns with comparable jurisdictions that were reviewed and would act as a deterrent to illegal on-street parking after a declaration has been made.

Enforcement efforts would include ticketing and, where necessary, towing non-compliant vehicles, particularly those obstructing snow operations or repeatedly offending. To ensure effective and more timely response, including securing the ability to tow non-compliant vehicles, enhanced towing services will be explored through a new procurement for the 2026/2027 winter season, specific to winter conditions as they pose additional challenges to enforcement. Winter conditions may limit officer mobility and increase tow truck response times. Towing contractors may also face delays due to weather and travel to and from the vehicle pound locations, necessitating greater coordination than under current procedures. Enforcement related to the proposed amendment will only commence once a "Citywide Winter Parking Restriction" is officially declared.

Financial Impact

There are no identified financial impacts related to the recommended option. Staff are in the process of finalizing a comprehensive educational campaign, which will be rolled out in the coming weeks. Communications on the change to parking restrictions related to winter maintenance activities will be included and absorbed through the existing winter operations communications budget.

Conclusion

Based on the evaluation of a number of parking restriction options, this report recommends implementing a "Citywide Winter Parking Restriction" to coincide with the start of plowing activities. The proposed amendments to the Traffic By-law 0555-2000 represent a balanced and practical approach to ensure that effective winter maintenance services are delivered across the city while accounting for on-street parking needs. By introducing targeted parking restrictions during winter weather events that require plowing, the City can improve roadway accessibility, reduce operational delays, and support the expanded service levels approved by Council. These changes align with best practices observed in other Ontario municipalities and reflect commitment to public safety, service efficiency, and transparent enforcement. By aligning communications efforts with updated enforcement procedures, the City is equipped to roll out

these amendments efficiently while keeping residents well-informed and equipped to comply with the “Citywide Winter Parking Restriction,” when declared.

Attachments

Appendix 1: Proposed By-law to Amend Traffic By-law 0555-2000, as amended, to provide for a citywide winter parking restriction

Appendix 2: Benchmarking: Winter Related On-street Parking Restrictions



Sam Rogers, MBA, Commissioner of Transportation and Works

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