

Additional Correspondence - CO-24-03

From: Saravanan Perumal <M.F.I.P.P.A. Sec 14(1) >

Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 1:14 PM

To: Pamela Aguilera <PAguilera@oshawa.ca>

Subject: Re: Bylaw Boulevard Infractions Submission - ACTION REQUIRED

Hello Sir/Madam,

I am a homeowner in Oshawa on grandview street North (Grandview street North and green hill Ave) and I would like to request you to make a change to allow residents to park on the city boulevard.

The city has started to ticket residents in our area and I'm informing you of this problem to help stop this. We are currently in a housing shortage and many homes have more than one families living in a home. Our property is a legal 2 dwelling unit. There are also multigenerational families in one residence. Many adult children are having to stay with their parents now, and aging parents are also living with their children in one residence. Many homes need the parking space due to the shortage of homes. Please consider making changes to this bi- law due to the current situation. I've encourage many of my neighbours to also petition this change to you. I have been informed that some municipalities (Courtice) have made changes to allow residents to park on city boulevards as space permits.

We hope you will be able to help us in this situation.

Thank you,
Saravanan Perumal

Additional Correspondence – CO-24-04

From: Dave Briggs <M.F.I.P.P.A. Sec 14(1) >

To: clerks <clerks@oshawa.ca>

Subject: Special Joint Committee Meeting

Clerks At Oshawa

Re; Boulevard Parking special joint committee meeting January 15th 2024

I am opposed to amending or removing Traffic By-law 79-99 to allow boulevard parking in the City of Oshawa.

I understand that the current Traffic By-law 79-99 is in place to ensure adequate and safe sight lines in the City of Oshawa for both motorists and pedestrians, and in particular, to protect small children. This safety precaution should not be removed or degraded for the convenience of a few residents having a petition. I respectfully submit that Oshawa residents (and all others) know, or should know, prior to purchasing their home, or building a basement apartment that parking restrictions are in place to prevent collisions and injury to the general public. Should the City of Oshawa decide to either remove or degrade By-law 79-99 and cannot enforce boulevard parking restrictions, then the City might find themselves in a liability situation in the event a collision occurs between vehicles and / or pedestrians. Compromising safety is not an avenue for some homeowners claiming they are solving the housing crisis?

The City of Oshawa should not permit parking on / over the boulevard, and should retain this safety By-law, ensuring regulations are in place to protect public safety, accessibility needs on the sidewalks, and streetscape in general.

Respectfully,

Dave Briggs Oshawa ON <M.F.I.P.P.A. Sec 14(1)> <M.F.I.P.P.A. Sec 14(1)>

From: Dee Dee Tobin <M.F.I.P.P.A. Sec 14(1)>

Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2024 10:41 PM

To: clerks <clerks@oshawa.ca>

Subject: Members: Joint Meeting Community & Operational / Safety & Facilities Services

To: Joint Members the Community and Operations Services and Safety and Facilities Committees

Date January 11, 2024

Dear Members of the Joint Community:

Re: Traffic By-law 79-99

I would like to provide input from my perspective regarding Traffic By-law 79-99, which is to be reviewed at the upcoming January 15th joint committee meeting.

I have read the written submissions by a few Oshawa residents regarding the By-law in question. In my opinion, it is being blamed for many things outside its purview, for which an amendment is being sought. For the sake of brevity, I will address two issues, safety and operational service delivery.

The argument, as one writer suggested, is that boulevards are designed to park vehicles safely. This seems a new take on the purpose and intent of boulevards. Why else do we have boulevards? I was under the impression boulevards allow for the entry and exit of a vehicle from one's driveway. How else does one access it?

I live on a corner property with one of the streets (Somerville) having a high traffic volume. As a driver, when I wanted to make a left hand turn at my corner, onto this street, it was virtually impossible to see approaching vehicles coming from my right. This dangerous situation was created because of a vehicle parked on the boulevard at the immediate next door neighbour's house located on the busy street. This chronically parked vehicle obstructed the view for all drivers attempting to turn left at this intersection. It distressed many a local resident; it remained a traffic safety issue.

Drivers should not be put at risk under any circumstance, if it is avoidable. Unfortunately, I continue to witness this growing situation at other residential intersections throughout the city. It will be a dangerous precedent set if safety does not remain the overriding dictate in this matter. Further, it opens the door for legal liability if the By-law is amended to accommodate boulevard parking.

The second issue relates to the municipality's ongoing need for efficient and timely sidewalk snow clearing operations during the winter months. Again, I shall refer to my home's location, a corner property. The city plows my sidewalk. The plow enters from the sidewalk at the corner of the intersection and exits via the

next door neighbour's driveway. Last winter, I was not having my sidewalk cleared as much as my fellow neighbourhood seniors were being done. I called the city thinking the driver had overlooked my address. I learned that over the course of about a week the driver(s) had returned to my address on many occasions but could not access and clear the sidewalk, nor salt it because of the vehicle(s) parked in the neighbour's boulevard. As I was advised, it was related to the difficulty for a driver(s) to attempt to navigate the heavy equipment around a parked vehicle on the boulevard, as the risk of damaging the vehicle was significant. The decision not to clear my sidewalk under the circumstances was quite disappointing but understandable. Because my corner has many school buses per day, picking up/dropping off children, a parent, frustrated with the sidewalk snow, knocked at my door demanding I shovel the sidewalk. In the end, I had to find and hire someone to shovel the sidewalk, as neither the city nor I was able to do so. This was an added and yet unnecessary homeowner expense related to others' boulevard parking. Snow clearing operations can not and will not be able to function effectively with this entitlement. Others are being affected by this "me'ism", but me neither sees nor cares.

This example illustrates the need for a more cost effective, efficient, uninterrupted and timely delivery of winter operational services but that are now being negatively impacted by boulevard parking. What was the cost to the Community/Operational Services budget for the numerous but unsuccessful snow clearing visits to my house? And how many others experienced the same issue that Operational Services may not have been aware of? Boulevard parking is not a non issue. It affects us all, the tax payers of Oshawa. It can only become worse if the trend is allowed to continue.

I do not support the written comments made by others that the city needs to show leniency and understanding thereby allowing the boulevards to be used as added parking spaces. Evident in these submissions was much noted emotion, accusation, rationalization and "me'ism". However, decisions made based on such do not make for good policy. As a resident I am aware and appreciate current societal issues, the economy, jobs, housing and other related issues. Without doubt, they are real. However By-law 79-99 is not the cure.

I have provided only two issues; there is a third, which relates to fire safety/delivery issues. But it is not about how many issues one can address. A measured and reasoned one should be enough.

The better question to be asked might be how can Oshawa proactively work to support the municipality going forward? I would be willing to participate in follow up discussions on some of the issues that the residents have addressed in another forum working towards solutions but the January 15th meeting is not it. Traffic By-law 79-99 is not the panacea some are seeking at the expense of others and should not be treated as such.

Thank you for your review and consideration

Mary Tobin