

COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

From: Administration

Date: October 3, 2023

Subject: Cul-de-sac Parking Bylaws

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receives this report for information.

BACKGROUND:

At the regular council meeting on August 14, 2023, a member of the public appeared as a delegation to ask that the traffic and parking bylaw be amended to resolve issues with driving and parking in cul-de-sacs. The delegation presented issues with the current bylaw that caused problems with turning around in the cul-de-sac, moving trailers into driveways of properties on the cul-de-sac, snow removal, and garbage collection. Council requested that staff bring back a report with information on other community bylaws and provide any recommendations for changes to the current cul-de-sac parking regulations.

CURRENT DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE BYLAW

There are no specific restrictions for parking in cul-de-sacs in the District of Mackenzie Traffic and Parking Bylaw No. 831. The Bylaw does describe restrictions on parking in general which are pertinent to the information given by the delegation. Articles of the bylaw that prohibit parking in certain circumstances may be relevant are as follows:

- **Article 7 (c)** prohibits parking in front of or within one and one-half (1.5) meters of a driveway.
- **Article 7 (w)** prohibits parking in such a manner so as to inhibit free access to any garbage container by any person authorized to deposit in or pick up garbage from such garbage container.
- **Article 7 (z)** prohibits parking upon a roadway in such a manner as to obstruct the free passage of traffic in the roadway.
- **Article 8** prohibits parking a vehicle or permitting a vehicle to remain parked on any highway so as to interfere in any manner with the work of removing snow or ice therefrom or the clearing of snow therefrom.

- **Article 9** sets time limits for parked vehicles. A general limit of twenty-four continuous hours is set in Article 9 (b).
- In **Article 9 (c)**, it is stated that this time limit cannot be circumvented by first moving and then parking the vehicle again elsewhere on the block. This means that per the bylaw, vehicles cannot be parked on one block for more than 24 continuous hours.

OFF-STREET PARKING IN CUL-DE-SACS

The off-street parking provided by driveways in Mackenzie cul-de-sacs is comparable to other communities. Driveways on cul-de-sacs provide ample parking space for multiple vehicles. There is also the option for property owners to apply for an improved driveway (widening), if necessary. In addition, the size of the cul-de-sacs and turning radiuses are also comparable.

PARKING BYLAWS IN OTHER COMMUNITIES

Staff reviewed community bylaws covering parking, traffic, and zoning for this report. Many communities have similar regulations to the District. Staff did find a few examples, as outlined below, that were specific to cul-de-sacs:

Some communities have legislated parking in cul-de-sacs to make parking parallel to the curb mandatory. This bylaw prohibits vehicles from angle-parking within cul-de-sacs. For example, in the Town of Comox Bylaw No. 1358, Article 7.9 states that "No person shall stand, stop, or park a vehicle in a cul-de-sac other than parallel with the outside curb of any cul-de-sac."

The City of Chilliwack has passed a bylaw amendment that prohibits parking in cul-de-sacs entirely. The staff report accompanying the motion stated that "Parking in a cul-de-sac becomes problematic for solid waste collection and for access for emergency vehicles and firefighting. A restriction for parking in a cul-de-sac is being added."

SUMMARY

The current traffic and parking bylaw already provide the District with regulations to address the current parking issues in cul-de-sacs. Staff are not recommending any changes to the bylaw at this time.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Community and Social Development

- Our investment in the municipality's services and infrastructure, our commitment to principles of social equity and well-being, and our belief in the value of resident engagement, creates a healthy community in which everyone feels valued and enjoys a high quality of life.

Strong Governance and Finances

- As the municipality's elected governing body, we serve all residents and businesses in the community. We engage residents and stakeholders on important issues and make our decisions through open and transparent processes. We are careful in our use of resources, mindful of the need to maintain programs and services, while also meeting the community's infrastructure needs.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Rowan Paulsen, Local Government Intern

Reviewed By: Corporate Services and Operations

Approved By: Chief Administrative Officer