

BYLAW 20364

Amendments to Create a New Offence and Penalty Specific to Vehicle Noise

RECOMMENDATION

That Bylaw 20364 be given the appropriate readings.

Purpose

To amend the *Traffic Bylaw 5590* to establish new offences and penalties in relation to excessive vehicle noise.

Readings

Bylaw 20364 is ready for three readings. If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, then prior to moving third reading, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 20364 be considered for third reading.”

Position of Administration

Administration supports this Bylaw.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the November 21, 2022, Community and Public Services Committee meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration return to Council with bylaw amendments to create a new offence and penalty specific to vehicle noise with a minimum fine amount of \$1,000, as outlined in the November 21, 2022, Community Services report CS01456.

Report Summary

Bylaw 20364 amends the Traffic Bylaw 5590 by creating a new offence for excessive vehicle noise that applies to all types of motor vehicles while retaining the current offence specifically applicable to motorcycles. The fine amount for both offences has been set at \$1,000. These offences and fine amounts will work as an additional deterrent to non-compliance when offences established in the *Traffic Safety Act* have been exhausted and do not serve as a meaningful deterrent.

BYLAW 20364 - Amendments to Create a New Offence and Penalty Specific to Vehicle Noise

REPORT

At the November 21, 2022, Community and Public Services Committee meeting, a motion was passed directing Administration to return to Council with a bylaw amendment which would create new offences and establish new fine amounts specific to excessive vehicle noise. Since 2019, and in collaboration with the Edmonton Police Service, Administration's peace officers have taken a more active role in the enforcement of excessive passenger vehicle noise offences. Peace officers have been enforcing these offences via the *Traffic Safety Act* and its *Regulations*.

Municipal and provincial governments establish legislation within their respective jurisdictions and seek to implement penalties that will serve as sufficient deterrents. As it relates to excessive noise emanating from passenger cars and trucks, the City of Edmonton does not currently have a bylaw that specifically addresses these behaviours, while an offence specific to motorcycles does exist.

Administration has prepared a bylaw for Council's consideration that establishes excessive vehicle noise offences with corresponding fine amounts that will serve as a meaningful deterrent. Additionally, this bylaw provides a discretionary option to enforcement officers and represents a substantial increase in comparison to the offences listed in the *Traffic Safety Act* which have been applied to date. If passed, Administration's peace officers will add this Bylaw to their current enforcement options while undertaking enforcement activities in this space.

COMMUNITY INSIGHT

Due to the short turnaround after reporting CS01456 - Enhanced Vehicle Noise Enforcement - Options and Implementation Plan on November 21, 2022, no formal community insight activities were undertaken for this bylaw report.

Budget/Financial Implications

Financial impacts are not known at this time, however, there may be an increase in enforcement costs and fine revenue in the short term. The longer term expectation is that the introduction of this fine will act as a deterrent and the occurrence of offences will gradually decrease as a result.

ATTACHMENT

1. Bylaw 20364

OTHERS REVIEWING THIS REPORT

- M. Plouffe, City Solicitor