

Bylaw 15968

Traffic Bylaw Amendment No. 140

Purpose

To amend Traffic Bylaw 5590 to reflect changes to: weight restrictions, highway markings, motorcycle angle parking, unsecure vehicle loads and fine increases.

Readings

Bylaw 15968 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 15968 be considered for third reading.”

Advertising and Signing

Advertising is not required for this Bylaw.

Position of Administration

Administration supports this Bylaw.

Report Summary

This Bylaw amends Bylaw 5590, the Traffic Bylaw, to reflect changes to: weight restrictions, highway markings, motorcycle angle parking, unsecure vehicle loads, and fine increases.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the October 9, 2012, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee meeting, Bylaw 15968 was forwarded to City Council for the appropriate readings.

Report

Bylaw 15968 amends four areas of the Traffic Bylaw:

1) Weight Restrictions

The *Traffic Safety Act* exempts school buses from the requirement to display the gross vehicle weight on the outside of the vehicle. School buses often park in residential areas within the city, which generates numerous citizen complaints. Since the gross vehicle weight is not displayed on the school bus, enforcement using the existing restrictions for parking overweight vehicles in residential areas is difficult. By adding a presumption regarding the gross vehicle weight of school buses to Bylaw 5590, enforcement will be enhanced in an effort to eliminate the parking of school buses in residential areas.

2) Highway Markings

Marking of highways, such as stencilling, has become more prevalent in the past few years. Markings are often temporarily installed on highway surfaces (sidewalks and roads) using non-permanent paint to promote and guide people to events. Adding a new Highway Markings section to Bylaw 5590 will prohibit the use of Highway Markings unless a permit has been issued by the City.

3) Motorcycle Angle Parking

Due to an error in the existing Bylaw 5590, an amendment is required to remove a duplicate provision and replace it with the correct wording.

4) Unsecured Vehicle Loads

Amendments to Bylaw 5590 regarding unsecure vehicle loads will provide increased clarity to citizens regarding

the requirement to secure loads. Increased clarity will also enhance enforcement efforts, thereby reducing the number of unsecured loads on City roads.

5) Fine Increases

The Community Standards Branch, Community Services, has reviewed six existing Traffic Bylaw 5590 offences and recommended suitable fine amount increases. Each of the six offences has a number of supporting elements (Attachment 3 and Attachment 4) justifying fine amount increase:

1. Section 18(1)(a) – Park a Heavy Vehicle in Residential area. Fine increase from \$50 to \$100.
2. Section 30 – Park in a No Park Zone. Fine increase from \$50 to \$75.
3. Section 31 – Stop in No Stopping Zone. Fine increase from \$50 to \$75.
4. Section 32 – Park in Restricted Zone. Fine increase from \$50 to \$75.
5. Section 37 – Park Without a Required Permit. Fine increase from \$50 to \$75.
6. Section 42 Park at an Expired Meter. Fine increase from \$35 to \$50.

The increases will come into effect January 1, 2013.

Council, in considering any change in fine amounts, has previously supported the principles of: ensuring that fines act as a sufficient deterrent; reflect the severity of the offence; and establish a reasonable and fair punitive amount.

In determining the amount of the fine increases, Administration reviewed similar fines in a number of other municipalities, enforcement trends, public concerns, business needs, and stakeholder perspectives. All of this is outlined in Attachment 3 and Attachment 4.

Policy

- Traffic Bylaw 5590
- *Traffic Safety Act*

Corporate Outcomes

The Way We Move - strategic goal of a well-maintained infrastructure and ensuring a safe reliable transportation network.

Public Consultation

- Administration met with the United Cabbies Association and Edmonton Fire Services regarding the fine increase for Park in Restricted zone.
- Administration met with the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues regarding the fine increase for Park a Heavy Vehicle in Residential Area.
- Administration met with the Council of Business Revitalization Zones regarding the fine increase for expired meters.

Budget/Financial Implications

Administration is forecasting a potential revenue increase from increased parking meter use and parking violations of up to \$2 million. This amount will be included in the 2013 budget.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 15968
2. Side by Side Comparison
3. Parking Fine Review

4. Fine Comparison Charts

Others Reviewing this Report

- D. H. Edey, General Manager,
Corporate Services
- L. Rosen, Chief Financial Officer and
Treasurer
- L. Cochrane, General Manager,
Community Services