Date March 19, 2019 Report No. 2019-144

To Chair and Members Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration

From E. (Beth) Goodger, General Manager Public Works Commission

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item [ ]
Item For Consideration [X]

2.0 Topic Avedisian Street – Parking Control [Financial Impact – None]

3.0 Recommendation

A. THAT Report 2019-144 Avedisian Street - Parking Control BE RECEIVED; and

B. THAT Option 1, being “No Parking” BE BY-LAWED on the west side of Avedisian Street from Blackburn Drive to Waldie Crescent/ Shantz Avenue BE APPROVED; and

C. THAT Schedule “7” of Parking By-law 144-88 which pertains to “Parking Prohibited at Anytime” BE AMENDED as outlined in Appendix “B” of Report No. 2019-144 dated March 19, 2019; and

D. THAT any corresponding by-law amendments BE PREPARED for Council’s approval.
4.0 Purpose and Overview

To amend parking regulations on Avedisan Street from Blackburn Drive to Waldie Crescent / Shantz Avenue in response to a resident’s concern. Two parking options were analyzed based on all the considerations. To address the main concerns, staff recommend Option 1, “No Parking” on the west side of Avedisan Street from Blackburn Drive to Waldie Crescent / Shantz Avenue.

Parking is currently permitted on both sides of Avedisan Street.

5.0 Background

The City was contacted to consider “No Parking” on one side of Avedisan Street from Blackburn Drive to Waldie Crescent / Shantz Avenue to improve traffic flow.

6.0 Corporate Policy Context

The following long term desired outcome from the Strategic Plan is addressed with the recommendation:

Brantford will be supported by well-developed and maintained transportation and servicing infrastructure.

7.0 Input From Other Sources

A letter dated January 2, 2019 as shown in Appendix “A”, was delivered to the twenty two (22) properties on both sides of Avedisan Street between Blackburn Drive and Waldie Crescent / Shantz Avenue. The letter outlined the proposed parking control change on Avedisan Street, which would permit parking only on the east side of the street. Responses from five (5) households were received with two (2) in support of the proposed parking restriction and three (3) opposed.

The two (2) residents in support of the proposed parking restriction did not provide additional comment regarding on-street parking but one commented that vehicles’ speeding is also a concern.

The three (3) residents opposing the proposed parking restriction outlined a number of concerns that are summarized as follows:

- Parking demand – some properties have single-car driveways with families having multiple vehicles. If parking is limited to one side parking will become congested. Several residents on Dwyer Court park several vehicles on-street, preventing Avedisan Street residents from parking on the court.
• Inadequate supply – restricting parking on the west side of Avedisian Street will not provide enough on-street parking to meet current demand within close proximity to homes. Residents will be forced to walk greater distance to/from their parked car.

• Parking violations – vehicles currently park too close to driveways, and are parked on-street for longer than 24 hours. Restricting parking to one side of the street will increase the frequency of vehicles attempting to fit in spaces that are too short to legally park a vehicle restricting access for adjacent driveways.

Avedisian Street is a Brantford Transit route between Blackburn Drive and Waldie Crescent / Shantz Avenue. Staff of Brantford Transit did not have concern with the current parking layout.

8.0 Analysis

Avedisian Street is 9.6 metre wide road with parking permitted on both sides of the street. A technical review confirmed that when vehicles are parked on both sides of Avedisian Street, the street is too narrow to maintain minimum clearance for two-way traffic, street maintenance, emergency operations, or driveway access. Street maintenance such as snow plowing is negatively affected by the current configurations, which may lead to impassible road conditions during winter or cause flooding when street sweepers can't remove debris at storm water catch basins. Ultimately the City would be liable for not meeting minimum maintenance standards when streets are not properly cleared. In summary, the following concerns will arise when vehicles park on both sides of Avedisian Street:

• emergency operations would be restricted;  
• inadequate width would create conditions prone to head-on collisions which tend to be the most severe of all collision types; 
• maintenance vehicles would have difficulty servicing the street, often resulting in further blockage of the road or flooding when storm drains are not cleared; and 
• vehicles turning into and out of driveways may be blocked.

All of the identified concerns can be addressed by restricting parking to one side of the street.

In response to resident’s comments, a parking utilization survey was undertaken for Avedisian Street on a weekday and Saturday to assess availability of on-street parking spaces. Peak parking utilization of 2 vehicles was observed during both study periods with each vehicle parked on different sides of the street. Based on the survey, keeping parking on the east side of
the street would accommodate peak demands (2 vehicles) with 10 parking spaces to spare. The parking study confirmed there would be sufficient parking supply with on-street parking kept to one side only.

Resident’s comment regarding parking violations can be mitigated in several ways including enforcement, marking of parking spaces, or education.

Two parking options are further analyzed based on all the considerations.

**Option 1 – “No Parking” on the west side of Avedisian Street**

To address the main concerns, staff recommend “No Parking” on the west side of Avedisian Street from Blackburn Drive to Waldie Crescent / Shantz Avenue. On-street parking would be allowed on the east side of Avedisian Street. The proposed on-street parking layout would meet the typical demand for on-street parking while addressing all the risks identified in the previous section. As a side benefit, the proposed configuration would also improve the intersection sightline from Dwyer Court. A diagram illustrating the proposed on-street parking restriction on Avedisian Street is shown in Figure 1.

The Parking By-law amendments required to implement Option 1 are outlined in Appendix “B” of Report 2019-144.

**Option 2 – Status Quo – on-street parking on both sides of Avedisian Street**

With the concerns raised by affected residents, a second option would be to maintain on-street parking on both sides of Avedisian Street to ensure on-street parking is within close proximity to their homes.

Selecting this option would not address the initial concerns raised by a resident and other risks identified by staff. However, it would reflect the comments received in response to the letter dated January 2, 2019.

**9.0 Financial Implications**

The estimated cost to install “No Parking” signs on Avedisian Street is $600.

Funding for this work will be provided from the Operational Services operating budget.
10.0 Conclusion

The recommended on-street parking plan, which permits parking only on the east side of Avedisian Street, would provide an optimal number of on-street parking spaces while ensuring current engineering standards are met for two-way traffic, street maintenance, emergency operations, and driveway access.
Figure 1 - Avedisian Street – Parking Control
Attachments:

Appendix A – Avedisian Street letter to residents

Appendix B - By-law Amendment – Avedisian Street - Parking Prohibited at Anytime

In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.

By-law required [X] yes [ ] no

Agreement(s) or other documents to be signed by Mayor and/or City Clerk [ ] yes [X] no

Is the necessary by-law or agreement being sent concurrently to Council? [X] yes [ ] no
APPENDIX “A”

January 2, 2019

Avedisian Street (Blackburn Drive to Waldie Crescent / Shantz Avenue)
Proposed Parking Control

Dear Residents:

Engineering Services received a concern relating to on-street parking affecting traffic safety on Avedisian Street. Upon further investigation, the existing parking regulation on Avedisian Street must be amended between Blackburn Drive and Waldie Crescent / Shantz Avenue in order to address the concern. An amendment would provide minimum clearance for two-way traffic, street maintenance, emergency response, and driveway access. A diagram showing the proposed amendment is provided on the reverse side of this letter.

The proposed amendment would permit parking on the east (odd number) side of Avedisian Street and restrict parking on the west (even number) side of the street. If approved, it is expected to improve overall safety of the neighbourhood and save tax dollars through maintenance efficiency. A recommendation will be forwarded to a future Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration meeting to amend the pertaining by-laws.

Your input is important. Please contact Rob Smith, C.E.T., Transportation Technologist directly if you have any questions or comments regarding the proposed changes for Avedisian Street at 519-759-4150 Ext. 5683 or e-mail at rsmith@brantford.ca before Friday, January 25, 2019.

Yours truly,

Ting Ku, P. Eng., PTOE
Manager of Transportation Services
cc:  Councillor R. Weaver  
     Councillor J. Vanderstelt  
     B. Goodger, General Manager, Public Works Commission  
     R. Loukes, P. Eng., Director of Engineering Services
APPENDIX “B”

Avedisian Street - Parking Prohibited at Anytime

a) RECOMMEND that Schedule “7” of Parking By-law 144-88 which pertains to “Parking Prohibited at Anytime” BE AMENDED to provide the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF STREET</th>
<th>SIDE OF STREET</th>
<th>LOCATION WHERE PARKING IS PROHIBITED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Avedisian Street</td>
<td>West</td>
<td>From Blackburn Drive to Waldie Crescent (north intersection)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>