Date       November 12, 2019            Report No. 2019-688

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

From        R. Loukes, P. Eng., Acting General Manager
            Public Works Commission

1.0  Type of Report

Consent Item [ ]
Item for Consideration [ X ]

2.0  Topic    Prohibit the Parking of School Buses on Blueridge Crescent and Adjacent to 560 Grey Street [Financial Impact – None]

3.0  Recommendation

A. THAT report 2019-688 pertaining to prohibiting the parking of school buses on specific streets BE RECEIVED; and

B. THAT staff BE DIRECTED to solicit feedback from the affected neighbourhoods of Blueridge Crescent and adjacent to 560 Grey Street on a potential ban of on-street parking between 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, September 1 through June 30.

4.0  Purpose and Overview

The purpose of this report is to identify potential parking restriction of school buses and survey residents on Blueridge Crescent and residents adjacent to 560 Grey Street for the potential restriction of all parking on both sides of Blueridge Crescent and on the north side of Grey Street between the driveways
for 560 Grey Street for the hours, days and months indicated under “Recommendations.”

5.0 Background

City Council, at their meeting September 24, 2019, approved the following:

Motion to Prohibit the Parking of School Buses on Certain Streets

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of municipalities to regulate parking on municipal highways; and

WHEREAS The Corporation of the City of Brantford regulates on-street parking pursuant to By-law 144-88; and

WHEREAS the City regularly receives requests to amend on-street parking regulations on various streets within the City’s jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS school buses pose a risk to residents with limited sight lines for oncoming traffic when exiting their driveways, and

WHEREAS parked school buses may pose a safety risk for pedestrians of all ages when crossing the road in close proximity to a parked bus, and

WHEREAS complaints have been received that the sight lines to exit driveways are impaired by the parking of school buses,

NOW THEREFORE the Corporation of the City of Brantford hereby resolves as follows:

A. THAT Staff BE DIRECTED to:

   i. Invite representatives from the local School Boards, School Trustees, Bus Drivers and Bus Contractors to the next Vision Zero Committee Meeting to discuss safety issues arising from the parking of school buses on residential streets;

   ii. Provide information to Council regarding the practices and/or restrictions of neighbouring communities for the parking of school buses; and

   iii. Investigate and report back on the potential parking restriction of school buses on both sides of Blueridge Crescent and on the north side of 560 Grey Street between the west and east driveways.

B. THAT Councillors Utley and Carpenter BE AUTHORIZED to speak to the School Trustees to discuss potential solutions to school bus parking on residential streets.
Staff was then directed to bring forward a report in the November cycle that pertains to Item A (iii) prior to the other items in the resolution.

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.

The By-law associated with the Amended On-street Parking Regulation Policy is expected to be enacted during the November Council Meeting. The survey will follow the feedback thresholds indicated in this policy.

7.0 Input from Other Sources

Input from the public has not yet been sought. One of the recommendations from this report is to seek input from the residents of affected neighbourhoods.

8.0 Analysis

Staff contacted twelve municipalities to provide information on the parking restrictions for school buses. The information gathered will be summarized and presented to the Vision Zero Road Safety Committee in the coming months. Every municipality contacted to date allows small school buses to park on-street, subject to the restricted time limit parking by-lawed in the municipality (for example a maximum of 5 hours, or within a certain time period such as 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.). In some municipalities, school buses are classified as “oversized vehicles,” and their by-laws specifically exempt school buses from the more restrictive parking control for oversized vehicles. Some municipalities do however prohibit the parking of large school buses on-street, as determined by their length and/or weight.

In order to minimize the potential sightline concerns raised by residents when a school bus is parked on these streets, it is recommended that staff survey the affected residents with the recommended option and report back to Council with feedback received and a final recommendation. The survey will propose that parking be prohibited on both sides of Blueridge Crescent and on Grey Street adjacent to 560 Grey Street between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, September 1 through June 30. The proposed parking restrictions are illustrated in Figure 1 for Blueridge Crescent and Figure 2 for Grey Street. Pending the Amended On-street Parking Regulation Policy Bylaw being enacted, staff will follow the thresholds indicated in that policy when
determining the recommendation to report back to Council after feedback is received.

As per the September Council resolution, staff will invite representatives from the local school boards, school trustees, and bus contractors to the next Vision Zero Road Safety Committee meeting to discuss safety issues arising from the parking of school buses on residential streets and impacts of prohibiting the parking of school buses on certain streets.

9.0 **Financial Implications**

The cost estimate to install parking control signage on Blueridge Crescent and Grey Street is $1,900.

Funding for this work would be provided from the Operational Services operating budget should Council proceed with the option of restricting parking on Blueridge Crescent and on Grey Street following the recommended consultation with residents within the affected neighbourhoods.

10.0 **Conclusion**

There is currently no precedence noted by staff that other municipalities completely prohibit the parking of school buses on city streets during the day. Some restrict large school buses from parking on-street or limit the time they can park on-street. Therefore, a weekday parking prohibition is an option between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, September 1 through June 30 on both sides of Blueridge Crescent and on Grey Street adjacent to 560 Grey Street.

As resolved by Council, staff will consult with school boards, school trustees and school bus contractors to discuss safety issues and impacts arising from the proposed parking of school buses on residential streets through the Vision Zero Road Safety Committee.
Figure 1 - Blueridge Crescent – Potential Parking Control Pending Resident Survey
Figure 2 - Grey Street - Potential Parking Control Pending Resident Survey
In adopting this report, is a by-law or agreement required? If so, it should be referenced in the recommendation section.

By-law required [ ] yes [X] 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? [ ] yes [X] no