



Governance and Priorities Committee Report For the Meeting of June 26, 2014

To: Governance and Priorities Committee **Date:** June 12, 2014
From: Dwayne Kalynchuk, Director, Engineering and Public Works
Subject: Streets and Traffic Bylaw Amendments for Trailer Parking Restrictions

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council direction regarding proposed amendments to the Streets and Traffic Bylaw that will clarify the regulations that prohibit parking of certain types of trailers on streets overnight by adding length and weight restrictions.

Recommendation:

That Council approve proposed changes to the Streets and Traffic Bylaw to address trailer parking, generally in accordance with Appendix A.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Brad Dellebuur".

for Brad Dellebuur
Manager
Transportation & Infrastructure Design

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dwayne Kalynchuk".

Dwayne Kalynchuk
Director
Engineering and Public Works

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert Woodland".

Robert Woodland
Director
Legislative and Regulatory Services

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. Woodland".
June 18, 2014

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to obtain Council direction regarding proposed amendments to the Streets and Traffic Bylaw that will clarify the regulations that prohibit parking of certain types of trailers on streets overnight by adding length and weight restrictions.

Background

The Streets and Traffic Bylaw includes regulations on the uses of city streets, including uses and restrictions related to trailers. According to the Bylaw, trailers are not to be parked overnight without permission or unless the trailer is small, attached to a vehicle and not used for large scale recreational purposes (e.g., a garden scraps trailer).

The Streets and Traffic Bylaw provisions related to trailers include:

- Section 4: In this Bylaw “trailer” means a vehicle, including a semi-trailer, that is at any time drawn upon a street by a motor vehicle, excluding
 - (a) an implement of husbandry
 - (b) a sidecar attached to a motor vehicle; or
 - (c) a disabled motor vehicle that is towed by a tow car
- Section 83 (5): A person who resides within the Capital Regional District must not park, on any street between 10:00 p.m. of one day and 6:00 a.m. of the next day,
 - (a) a motor home,
 - (b) a camper truck (*a pick-up truck with a camper mounted*)
 - (c) a trailer used for recreational purposes, or
 - (d) a pleasure boat and trailer used for recreational purposes

Additional regulations for trailers state that they must at all times be attached to a motor vehicle unless the owner has a permit authorizing the parking.

Recent issues have arisen in several neighbourhoods where individuals are parking large trailers, equivalent to the current types of trailers that are prohibited from overnight parking on streets, for extended periods of time. The City has been unable to address the issue under the current Streets and Traffic Bylaw because the size and weight of a prohibited trailer is not prescribed in the bylaw. Allowing larger trailers attached to motor vehicles impacts the general availability of street parking for others and unintentionally allows the storing of large personal property on public streets.

Other municipalities, including Saanich, Esquimalt, Sidney and Vancouver, have enacted regulations to address trailer parking, and while different approaches are taken based on a jurisdiction’s needs and concerns, limits on trailer length and weight are a common practice.

Issues & Analysis

Intent of original bylaw provisions

The wording of the original bylaw regulations in Streets and Traffic Bylaw section 83(5) was intended to prohibit the storage and long term parking of large, non-commercial and primarily recreational trailers on streets. Situations with some types of trailers that are not expressly captured under the current bylaw and are currently parked on City streets have revealed a gap in the current bylaw language that was not intended and should be clarified. Examples of these include trailers with recreational vehicles (such as all-terrain vehicles, ski-doo’s or jet-skis) on top, or trailers with equipment on top (e.g., riding lawn mowers).

trailers on public property is maintained. In particular, the phrasing of section 83 (5) subsection (c) that prohibits the parking of “a trailer used for recreational purposes” is not clear enough and is potentially open to several different interpretations. The proposed amendment will address the uses of limited amounts of on-street parking by oversize vehicles as well as the ambiguity in the bylaw that currently allows some commercial trailers to be parked overnight.

Proposed length and weight restrictions

The proposed amendments to the Streets and Traffic Bylaw involve adding a length and weight restriction to further clarify the types of trailers not permitted to be parked on city streets overnight.

The proposal is to prohibit trailers:

- Longer than 6 metres, and
- Heavier than 1401 kg (GVWR).

The following are examples of classifications of trailers in other local governments and according to Provincial legislation:

Other Jurisdictions & Examples	Length and Weight restrictions of Trailers
City of Vancouver	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Longer than 6.4 metres• Heavier than 5,500 kg
Provincial <i>Commercial Transport Act</i> and <i>Motor Vehicle Act</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Weights of over 1400 kg are considered heavy trailers

Enforcement

When bylaws are amended, the first goal is always to inform the affected public of the changes. Following that, and in keeping with the City’s common practice for bylaw enforcement, the aim is to obtain voluntary compliance. If required, Parking Enforcement Officers will then follow-up as necessary and according to the offences laid out in Schedules F and G of the Streets and Traffic Bylaw. It is anticipated that this work will result in only a minimal impact to staff resources in the Bylaw and Licensing Division, but statistics on contacts made, tickets issued, and any service level impacts will be provided to Council in the coming months.

Communications Strategy

In an effort to inform residents who may be affected by the change in parking rules, a press release will be issued following adoption of the bylaw amendment that will announce the change and the purposes for it.

Recommendation

That Council approve proposed changes to the Streets and Traffic Bylaw to address trailer parking, generally in accordance with Appendix A.

Appendix A: Proposed Bylaw Amendment

No. 14-XX

STREETS AND TRAFFIC BYLAW, AMENDMENT BYLAW (No. 3)

A BYLAW OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA

The purpose of this Bylaw is to amend the Streets and Traffic Bylaw in order to better regulate the parking of certain vehicles and trailers overnight on City streets.

Under its statutory powers, including sections 8, 35 to 46, and 62 of the *Community Charter*, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Victoria, in a public meeting, enacts the following provisions:

- 1 This Bylaw may be cited as the "STREETS AND TRAFFIC BYLAW, AMENDMENT BYLAW (No. 3)".
- 2 Bylaw No. 09-079, the Streets and Traffic Bylaw, is amended by repealing section 83 (5) and replacing it with the following:

"(5) A vehicle that is

- (a) a motor home,
- (b) a camper truck,
- (c) a trailer used for recreational purposes,
- (d) a pleasure boat and trailer used for recreational purposes; or
- (e) a trailer that is in excess of
 - (i) 1400 kg., registered GVW, or
 - (ii) 6 metres in length,

and that is registered to, or owned by, a person with an address within the Capital Regional District must not be parked on any street between 10:00 p.m. of one day and 6:00 a.m. of the next day.

READ A FIRST TIME the	day of	2014
READ A SECOND TIME the	day of	2014
READ A THIRD TIME the	day of	2014
ADOPTED on the	day of	2014

"ROBERT G. WOODLAND"
CORPORATE ADMINISTRATOR

"DEAN FORTIN"
MAYOR