



Subject: Nickel Beach Parking By-law Amendments

To: Council

From: Corporate Services Department

Report Number: 2023-86

Meeting Date: May 9, 2023

Recommendation:

That Corporate Services Department Report 2023-86 be received;

That Council approve the amendments to the Permitting System for Parking of Vehicles on Designated Highways and Parking Lots in the City of Port Colborne By-law 7006/44/22, identified as Appendix A of Corporate Services Report 2023-86;

That Council approve the new Parking Fees identified in Appendix B of Corporate Services Report 2023-86; and

That the updated Schedule G of the User Fees and Charges By-law be included in a future amendment to the Fees and Charges for Various Services By-law 7047/84/22.

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to amend current by-laws to facilitate changes in parking when residents of the City of Port Colborne and visitors come to Nickel Beach.

Background:

This report follows the 2023 Nickel Beach Parking and Related Operations report to Council on February 28, 2023, referred to as report 2023-32 and the Nickel Beach Update presented to Council on April 25, 2023.

Discussion:

This report has been prepared to put forward amendments to the Permitting System for Parking of Vehicles on Designated Highways and Parking Lots in the City of Port Colborne By-law 7006/44/22 and to amend Parking Fees at Nickel Beach through the Fees and Charges for Various Services By-law 7047/84/22 when it is next amended.

The amendments proposed to these bylaws follow the Nickel Beach Update presentation to Council on April 25, 2023.

Readers of this report will note Staff originally referred to parking locations as “Lots” in the February 28, 2023, report but change that wording in the April 25, 2023 presentation and going forward have recommended they be referred to as “Zones”.

Key highlights to Nickel Beach Parking operations include:

- Beach and parking hours will be 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. from May 19th to September 30th.
- The Nickel Beach gate will only be open to the public during these hours.
- There is no charge to walk onto the beach. The beach is free to walk on during the hours identified.
- Residents of the City of Port Colborne that put their PORTicipate pass in a visible location on their dashboard can parking in Zones 2 or 3 for free.
- If a resident displays an Ontario-issued Accessible Parking Permit, they will be able to park in Zone 1 accessible parking spots provided there are spots available.
- Parking fees are as outlined in the appendices and follow the direction of the April 25, 2023, presentation to Council.

At the February 28, 2023, meeting, there was direction to provide a limited number of annual passes. As communicated the upper parking lot at Vale will not be available to the City. This has required a change to the proposed plan. The attached appendices recommend the following:

- Platinum Pass – 7 days a week, guaranteed spot in Zone 2 (\$350)
- Gold Pass – Monday to Thursday, no guaranteed spot in Zone 2 (\$150)

On April 29, 2023, Staff along with Councillor Hoyle went door to door in Zone 3 to hand out PORTicipate passes and explain the program.

At the time of writing this report, parking zones 1 & 2 are still under construction. Zone 1 is expected to be complete by the Victoria Day long weekend. Zone 2 is expected to be available for parking with on-going improvements through June. Staff identifies signage is in progress and will continue to be installed through the summer. Temporary signage may be used when required.

Internal Consultations:

The proposed amendments to by-laws attached as Schedule A were developed through collaboration between the City's Corporate Communications, Community Safety & Enforcement, Corporate Services, and Public Works Staff.

Financial Implications:

The cost to implement signage for Nickel beach and related parking enforcement is included in the beach parking lot budget.

Public Engagement:

On April 29th, a Staff volunteer group completed a door-to-door initiative that engaged residents on the changes to parking in their local area. Residents that were home were provided with registration for PORTicipate passes if not already signed up, and a door knocker information pamphlet was left for those who were not home. City Staff will be following-up with those residents that were not home to help in obtaining a PORTicipate pass if needed.

Staff are developing a marketing and communication plan to promote Nickel Beach. This will begin to be deployed once the parking lots are further along.

Strategic Plan Alignment:

The initiative contained within this report supports the following pillar(s) of the strategic plan:

- Service and Simplicity - Quality and Innovative Delivery of Customer Services
 - City-Wide Investments in Infrastructure and Recreational/Cultural Spaces
 - Governance: Communications, Engagement, and Decision-Making
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Conclusion:

Approving this report will allow for the regulation and enforcement of parking within the new Nickel Beach parking zones.

Appendices:

- a. Nickel Beach Parking By-Law Amendments

- b. Update to Schedule G – Beaches, of the User Fees and Charges By-law

Respectfully submitted,

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Report Approval:

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final review and approval by the Chief Administrative Officer.