



Corporate Report

NO: R221

COUNCIL DATE: November 3, 2008

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: Mayor & Council
FROM: City Solicitor
SUBJECT: Complimentary Parking for Veterans at On-Street Parking Meters in Surrey

DATE: October 28, 2008
FILE: 5480-01

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Council:

1. Receive this report as information; and
2. Adopt as a policy that vehicles bearing a "veteran" license plate be granted complimentary parking on a year round basis at all City of Surrey on-street parking meters.

PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this report is to introduce for Council's consideration a policy that would allow veterans year round complimentary parking at City of Surrey on-street parking meters.

BACKGROUND

There are approximately 1,600 veteran's plates registered to vehicles with addresses in Surrey. During the "Year of the Veteran", which was 2005, City Council adopted a resolution to allow complimentary parking for vehicles bearing a "veteran" license plate at all Surrey on-street parking meters. This policy was in effect only for 2005. Based on City records, there was no significant impact on parking meter revenues in 2005 in comparison to previous or subsequent years.

DISCUSSION

Other Metro Vancouver municipalities have veteran parking programs as follows:

City of Richmond – Allows complimentary parking on a year round basis for Richmond veterans by using an "identification sticker" process.

City of White Rock – Allows complimentary parking on a year round basis for White Rock veterans by using an "identification sticker" process.

City of New Westminster – Allows complimentary parking on a year round basis for vehicles bearing a "veteran" license plate.

City of Coquitlam – Allows complimentary parking on a year round basis for vehicles bearing a "veteran" license plate.

City of Port Moody – Allows complimentary parking on a year round basis for vehicles bearing a "veteran" license plate.

To honour veterans of the armed forces it is considered reasonable for the City of Surrey to adopt as a policy that vehicles bearing a "veteran" license plate be given complimentary parking at all City of Surrey on-street parking meters. Based on the experience of a prior year, this policy will not have a significant impact on revenues derived from parking meters.

CRAIG MacFARLANE
City Solicitor

CM:mlg

c.c. General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture
Manager, By-laws and Licensing Services