



Public Parking Action Plan Development Project

Edmonton

Current Practices Report

City Planning Branch
Parks and Roads Services Branch

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Purpose

This document consists of a review of programs, tools, and tactics currently utilized by the City of Edmonton in the management of on-street parking. This review helps to establish and understand the baseline of challenges and opportunities facing the current practices in the city, and to assess whether these programs, tools, and tactics align with policies and public feedback/input identified through the strategic policy review and engagement review. Understanding gaps in current practices will help in deciding upon whether programs, tools, and tactics should be continued, refined, or retired.

Process / Methodology

Drawing on the expertise of the Public Parking Implementation Advisory Group, a list of programs, tools, and tactics related to parking were identified for review. A systematic review was undertaken in the assessment of each of these current practices: (a) program name; (b) program purpose; (c) program successes; (d) program weaknesses; (e) program alignment to identified strategic policies; and program alignment to public engagement themes identified in the engagement review. Once each program is reviewed with this approach, a matrix listing all programs in relation to these criteria will be prepared for the Public Parking Implementation Advisory Group — providing a quick review of program gaps. Once all programs are assessed, a review by the Project Team and Public Parking Implementation Advisory Group will be facilitated to assess major themes/outcomes arising from these current practices and the identification of next steps in modernizing the on-street parking approach in Edmonton.

Limitations

The analysis undertaken through the gap analysis utilized a qualitative review (interpretive review of policy and engagement themes) to identify whether the current practices met or did not meet the themes identified in the strategic policy and engagement review work. At times, the noted themes

were not relevant to the program at hand, rendering scoring and analysis difficult.

Current Practices Review

The ability to manage on-street parking spaces is primarily given to City Administration through the powers identified in the Traffic Bylaw 5590 (the Bylaw). The Bylaw provides the City of Edmonton the ability to manage curbside assets by outlining regulations for: the types of vehicles that may access such spaces, the time limits for access, the fee (if any) required to pay for access and enforcement measures to ensure the regulations are being met by users.

The City, through the authority of the Traffic Bylaw 5590, currently has several active programs and approaches in place to manage curbside spaces, including:

- The Residential Parking Program
- EPark Parking System (zoned-based electronically-paid parking)
- Demand Responsive Pricing
- Curbside Accessible Parking Program & Gratuity

A description of each program, including a summary of key program successes and weaknesses are provided in **Appendix A - Current Practices Gap Analysis Matrix**. Utilizing this matrix, each of the programs have been assessed utilizing the consolidated themes identified in the strategic policy and engagement reviews to help provide context to future program considerations.

Summary of Findings

In review of how the City of Edmonton currently manages on-street parking spaces through various tools and programs, the approaches have been found to be generally in keeping with the consolidated themes identified in the strategic policy and engagement reviews.

The Residential Parking Program was the only program that was found to be out of alignment with the findings of the strategic policy and engagement reviews given the nature of the program - a tool mainly used to protect on-street parking for homeowners in specific geographical locations, despite the availability of private parking.

It is recommended that the Residential Parking Program be reimagined to balance congestion management and other city-building goals identified in the City Plan.

Summary of Current Practices Themes

In review of the City of Edmonton's current approach to managing on-street parking spaces, the following themes emerged:

- The City's current Residential Parking Program is misaligned to the themes from strategic policy and engagement reviews undertaken as part of this project
- Performance/Demand-based Pricing is a critical component to the effective management of on-street parking spaces
- Strategic management of on-street parking spaces has been made possible through technological advancements
- Accessible and equitable distribution of on-street parking spaces serves all Edmontonians, however, further assessment of the existing gratuity is required.

Next Steps

The findings through the current practices review will be considered, among other project work in the development of the Public Parking Action Plan.