

Councillor Request Inquiry

30-2019

2019

Please provide information on what may be done to alert residents to the parking prohibition next to the Synergy Building Fire Hydrants: Residents are given tickets for parking despite the fire hydrants being some distance from the roadway and there being no “parking prohibited” signs posted.

Good morning Council,

Transportation and Agriculture Services would like to thank Councillor Anderson for the additional information and photographs forwarded recently of the specific hydrants in question. Our response to your Information Request regarding no parking signage as requested at the July 23 Council Meeting is as follows:

The County currently owns 1,914 hydrants on municipal roadways and were we to sign a location with the required two No Parking signs, we could therefore set precedent for other locations, which could amount to over 3,800 no parking signs. To our knowledge and experience, no municipality signs no parking zones around fire hydrants, as the parking prohibition surrounding fire hydrants is known and expected to be understood by drivers dating to their licensing process. The parking prohibition, one of many in the Traffic Safety Act’s “Use of Highway and Rules of the Road Regulations”, is outlined in Section 44 as:

44 Parking

A person driving a vehicle shall not, unless

- (a) required or permitted by the Act, this Regulation or by a traffic control device,
- (b) in compliance with a direction given by a peace officer, or
- (c) to avoid conflict with other traffic,

stop or park the vehicle at the following locations:

- (i) **within 5 metres from any fire hydrant, or when the hydrant is not located at the curb, within 5 metres from the point on the curb nearest the hydrant**

The hydrants in the supplied photos (received on August 30) indicate that the road in question is Bethel Way north of Bethel Drive, which in this specific segment has three hydrants along the west side of the roadway which follow the County’s Design & Construction Standards (DCS) of the period. The three hydrants are each located approximately 3.15m offset from the curb line and are located between the parking lane and the paralleling separate sidewalk. All County hydrants are painted bright yellow and are easily visible from the road. The current DCS has hydrant offsets varying from 2.0m to 3.6m dependent upon the roadway classification and associated right-of-way width.

The RCMP and Enforcement Services reports 57 tickets in 2019 (Jan-July) compared to 52 for the same time period 2018, and 61 for the same time period 2017. These numbers are not different than any other fire hydrants in the County.

Kara Markine

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