


AGENDA INFORMATION

- Regular Meeting
- Other:

Date: _____
Date: _____


Dept.
Manager


GM/
Director


CAO

The District of North Vancouver REPORT TO COUNCIL

January 11, 2021

File: 11.5210.00/000.000

AUTHOR: Banafsheh Rahmani, PEng, Transportation Engineering

SUBJECT: Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot Project - Council Endorsement

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the plan for the Lynn Canyon Park Pay Parking Pilot be endorsed by Council for implementation.

REASON FOR REPORT:

To seek Council endorsement for implementation of the Lynn Canyon Park Pay Parking Pilot Project.

SUMMARY:

A report to Committee on Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot Project was submitted to Committee of the Whole (CoW) on December 01, 2020. In a December 14, 2020 workshop, CoW recommended the project to be endorsed. The following addresses the Committee's comments received during the December 14, 2020 workshop. The December 01, 2020 Report to Committee is attached as an Appendix to this Report to Council for reference.

BACKGROUND:

Lynn Canyon Park attracts over a million visitor each year. With growing popularity, the park's parking demand reaches 2,500 vehicles per day during peak summer periods. This volume has resulted in considerable strain not only on park trails, stairs, boardwalks, and supporting amenities, but also on surrounding neighbourhoods from spill-over parking demand.

During several recent Council Workshops, including the On-Street Parking Management Strategy Workshop (November 04, 2019), the Parking Policy Workshop (June 22, 2020) and the most recent Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot Workshop (December 14, 2020), the use of pay parking as a DNV Park demand management tool has been discussed and recommended for endorsement by DNV Council. Additionally, it has been recommended that the Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot be implemented in combination with increased on-street parking restrictions in surrounding neighbourhoods in accordance with the District's On Street Parking Policy (adopted November 23, 2020) to mitigate livability impacts caused by increased overflow parking pressure on surrounding residential streets from park visitors.

Lynn Canyon Park's west parking lot (accessed from Peters Road) has had a maximum time restriction of 3 hours in place for several years based on park visitation user patterns. The pay parking pilot will not change this 3 hour limit. The Lynn Canyon Park east parking lot (accessed from Lillooet Road east of Lynn Creek) remains free of charge.

While the Lynn Canyon Park pay parking pilot is being coordinated with Metro Vancouver Regional District's pay parking initiative at nearby Lynn Headwaters Regional Park, the District has no jurisdiction over Lynn Headwaters Regional Park.

ANALYSIS:

1.0 PAY PARKING EXEMPTIONS

DNV residents will have the option of purchasing an annual DNV park pass to exempt them from payment at the Lynn Canyon Park parking lot, with the requirement that park passes are displayed in vehicles similar to Resident Parking Only (RPO) parking passes. DNV residents will be eligible to purchase an annual DNV Park Pass for an annual fee of \$10.00. Vehicles displaying a disability card issued by the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC) are exempt from payment at the lot.

2.0 PROJECT ASSESSMENT

In order to measure the effectiveness of the Lynn Canyon Park Pay Parking Pilot as a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) tool, the following metrics will be tracked:

- Hourly parking demand and parking duration within the Lynn Canyon Park parking lot;
- Parking demand on adjacent residential streets;
- Pedestrian and cyclist volumes on approach to Lynn Canyon Park;
- Lynn Canyon Park visitation through DNV Park trail counters; and
- TransLink ridership statistics at nearby transit stops.

Existing Policy:

The DNV On-Street Parking Policy identifies pay parking as an available tool to advance TDM objectives. This policy also establishes criteria for RPO and Time Restricted with Resident Exemption (RE) eligibility. These tools will be applied to residential streets surrounding Lynn Canyon Park in coordination with the pay parking pilot to ensure continued liveability of neighbourhoods.

Timing/Approval Process:

The Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot is scheduled to be operational beginning March 01, 2021 in coordination with the Metro Vancouver pay parking pilot planning for Lynn Headwaters Park. The pilot will be seasonal from March 01 to October 31, and is scheduled to be in place for a 2 year period.

Financial Impacts: Revenue is expected to be between \$250,000 and \$480,000 per season. The generated revenue is expected to be directed towards DNV Park capital improvements, maintenance and operations, and potentially additional park-related TDM initiatives pending future budget approvals.

Environmental Impact: Pay parking is considered a highly effective TDM tool in reducing the use of personal vehicles, while encouraging the use of active and sustainable modes of transportation including walking, cycling, and transit. This mode shift will result in a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

Public Input: Following initial public notification and implementation of the Lynn Canyon Pilot Project, public input will be collected and reviewed so that adjustments can be considered throughout the duration of the pilot.

3.0 COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

A variety of communication tools will be used, such as on-site signage, newspaper ads, web content and social media posts, to effectively communicate the changes and charges to visitors and residents.

Concurrence: DNV parks, DNV Finance, DNV Communications, and DNV Bylaws.

Conclusion:

- The Lynn Canyon Park Pay Parking Pilot, in combination with surrounding on-street parking restrictions are expected to be effective tools in managing vehicle demand both at the park and within adjacent residential neighbourhoods;
- The Lynn Canyon Park Pay Parking Pilot is expected to encourage the use of other modes of transportation such as walking, cycling, and transit;
- Pay parking will be seasonal, effective from March 01 to October 31;
- DNV residents will be exempt from paying at the Lynn Canyon Park parking lot;
- DNV Park parking passes will be available for purchase at an annual cost of \$10.00;
- DNV Transportation, Parks, and Bylaws will track several metrics to enable analysis and assessment of the effectiveness of pay parking as an effective TDM tool.

Options:

THAT DNV Council endorse the Pay Parking Pilot Project at Lynn Canyon Park (RECOMMENDED).

THAT DNV Council does NOT endorse the Pay Parking Pilot Project at Lynn Canyon Park (NOT RECOMMENDED).

Respectfully submitted,



Banafsheh Rahmani, PEng
Transportation Engineer

Attached: Report to Committee - Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot Project Update

REVIEWED WITH:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk's Office	_____	External Agencies:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Library Board	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Engineering	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> NS Health	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fire Services	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> RCMP	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering Operations	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> ITS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> NVRC	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Parks	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Solicitor	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum & Arch.	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Environment	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Facilities	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Real Estate	_____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Bylaw Services	_____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Review and Compliance	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Planning	_____		

AGENDA INFORMATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> Council Workshop	Date: December 14, 2020
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance & Audit	Date: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Advisory Oversight	Date: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	Date: _____



The District of North Vancouver REPORT TO COMMITTEE

December 1, 2020
File: 16.8620.01/009.000

AUTHOR: Banafsheh Rahmani, PEng Transportation Engineering

SUBJECT: Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot Project- Update

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the proposed implementation plan for the Lynn Canyon Park Pay Parking Pilot be endorsed and referred to Council.

REASON FOR REPORT:

The reason for this report is to provide Council with an update on the Lynn Canyon Park Pay Parking Pilot Project implementation plan and seek endorsement.

SUMMARY:

During the Nov 04, 2019 Transportation Workshop, Council endorsed the use of pay parking as a demand management tool. Further, the implementation of a seasonal pay parking pilot at the Lynn Canyon Park parking lot was endorsed for the beginning of the 2021 season following recent parking lot safety and circulation improvements completed in 2020.

The pay parking pilot will be coordinated with a Metro Vancouver pay parking pilot planned for the Lynn Headwaters Regional Park, with implementation scheduled for March 01, 2021. Council has directed that revenues generated from the Lynn Canyon Pay Parking pilot are invested back into DNV Parks and/or active transportation infrastructure or other transportation demand management (TDM) initiatives.

In addition, the District's On-Street Parking Policy should be applied to the residential streets surrounding Lynn Canyon Park to ensure that park-related parking demand does not adversely impact adjacent neighbourhoods. It is proposed that this pilot is run for a minimum of 2-year seasonally from March 01 and Oct 31, with dynamic (variable) pricing to reflect demand. Initial rates are proposed at \$3.00/hr to a maximum of 3hrs to facilitate turn-over within the parking lot. DNV residents will be eligible to purchase an annual 'DNV Park Parking Pass' at a cost-neutral price designed to cover administrative fees, similar to the DNV resident parking only program. Per Council's direction, a DNV Park Parking Pass will exempt residents from the hourly rate.

BACKGROUND:

Attracting more than one million visitors annually, Lynn Canyon Park is one of our most popular destinations. Lynn Canyon Park parking lot demand reaches 2,500 vehicles per day during peak summer periods. In 2017 the Lynn Canyon Ecology Centre welcomed 90,000 visitors, prompting the introduction of a tour bus permitting system to help regulate the volume of daily visitors. On-street parking regulations were also introduced in 2018 to better manage impacts to residential neighbourhoods.

During the Nov 04, 2019 Transportation Workshop, Council endorsed the use of pay parking as a demand management tool, and on Nov 23, 2020 Council endorsed a comprehensive on-street parking policy. This policy presents an array of regulatory tools such as pay parking, resident parking only, and time limited with/without resident exemption for use by transportation staff to better and more consistently manage parking demand across the District.

Transportation staff also prepared a June 10 Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot Project Information Report to Committee outlining project scope, schedule, financial impacts, and expected revenues. The Lynn Canyon Pay Parking pilot was also discussed in detail during a June 22, 2020 Parking Policy Workshop.

ANALYSIS:

1.0 TIMELINE AND SEASONAL CHARGES

The Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot Project is proposed as a two year pilot, effective seasonally from Mar 1st to Oct 31st.

2.0 COORDINATION WITH ON-STREET PARKING REGULATIONS

It is anticipated that unless increased on-street regulatory controls are established surrounding Lynn Canyon Park, implementation of the pay parking pilot would impact surrounding neighbourhood. The on-street parking regulations on the adjacent streets will be respectively coordinated with the pay parking implementation. This will likely involve a combination of resident parking only, and time limited with/without resident exemption. Expanded parking regulations will be implemented in coordination with the start of the Lynn Canyon Pay Parking pilot in accordance with the District's On-Street Parking Policy.

3.0 PAY PARKING EXEMPTIONS

The District of North Vancouver's residents are exempt from payment at the lot. The District residents can apply for a parking season pass (1 pass per household) to be purchased. The season passes are cost neutral. Vehicles with a disability decal are exempt from payment at the lot.

Financial Impacts:

1.0 PARKING RATES AND ALLOWED TIMING

Based on various parking rates throughout Vancouver, Table 2 shows the recommended rates to be applied to the Lynn Canyon Park:

Hours	Rate
1 Hour	\$3
2 Hour	\$6
3 Hour (Maximum)	\$9

Table 2: Recommend Parking Rates

Note: The maximum 3 hour parking is a demand management strategy during peak periods to encourage a higher visitor turnover rate. The parking rates per hour can be adjusted so the projected revenue remains unchanged. Also, if vehicles park beyond 3 hours, a higher rate could be charged for those additional hours. We will be monitoring the proposed parking fee as part of a dynamic pricing initiative to address parking demand in the lot and adjacent streets.

2.0 REVENUE GENERATION

Based on the available stalls, the conservative estimation of the revenue generated by the parking lot will be maximum of \$4,000 on a busy day when all the stalls are occupied. On a busy season, it is estimated to generate an annual maximum of \$960,000. Based on the industry-standard, average parking lot of 133 spot size generates about \$480,000 per annum. The assumption is that 50% of the residents will apply for a season pass. Therefore, the range for the revenue is expected to be between \$250,000 and \$480,000 per season. There is a potential for the pilot pay parking project to be expanded to other high use parks depending on learnings from the Lynn Canyon Pay Parking Pilot Project.

The generated revenue can be used towards mitigation of park use demand impacts, TDM initiatives and advance traveller information. It is noted that Council direction proposes significant investment in active transportation over the next ten years. Pay parking revenues could assist in supporting that investment.

Social Policy Implications:

Some concern expressed that pay parking may be a potential impediment for access to parks. Lynn Canyon Park is accessible by transit with a stop on Peters Road about two blocks away. Access via bicycle and on foot is reasonable, and free parking remains available at the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve via Lillooet Road.

Travellers with a valid Handi-cap Permit issued by the Social Planning and Research Council of BC (SPARC) are exempt from parking fees.

Environmental Impact:

Pay parking is an effective Transportation Demand Management (TDM) tool which will encourage alternative transportation modes to the personal motor vehicle and reduce carbon emissions pursuant to the District Community Energy and Emissions Plan (CEEP).

3.0 COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

A communications strategy will be developed to raise awareness about Lynn Canyon Pay Parking and to notify residents about pay parking exemptions once all program details are finalized.

Concurrence:

DNV Parks, DNV Bylaws, DNV Finance.

Conclusion:

- The pay parking system is anticipated to be initiated in March 1st, 2021 and be in effect from March 1st to October 31st. This is a 2-year pilot project.
- Parking rates are in coordination with Metro Vancouver parking rates at \$3/hour. The generated revenue is expected to support park use demand impact, TDM initiatives and advanced traveller information.
- New on-street parking regulations will be implemented on the adjacent streets in accordance with the District's On-Street Parking Policy.
- The District residents are exempt from payment upon displaying a season pass in their vehicle.

Options:

It is recommended that the plan for pay parking pilot project implementation be endorsed and referred to Council.

Respectfully submitted,



Banafsheh Rahmani P.Eng
Transportation Engineer

REVIEWED WITH:					
<input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Clerk's Office	_____	External Agencies:	
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Planning	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Library Board	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Development Engineering	_____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Finance	<i>MS</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> NS Health	_____
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