

From: ["Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#)
CC: ["City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"](#)
["LaClaire, Lon" <lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca>](mailto:lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca)
Date: 1/18/2021 3:29:39 PM
Subject: Memo - Passenger Zone and School Pick-up and Drop-off practices during COVID-19 - RTS 14146
Attachments: Memo - Passenger Zone and School Pick-up and Drop-off practices during COVID-19.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please see the attached memo from Lon LaClaire. A short summary of the memo is as follows (RTS 14146):

- On October 20, 2020, Council enquired about the enforcement practices for passenger zones and pick-up/drop-off areas near schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- As per the Street and Traffic By-law, vehicles may stop in passenger zones for up to 3 minutes and for up to 5 minutes in No Parking zones to load and unload passengers. These durations are increased to 30 minutes for vehicles displaying a SPARC placard (disability placard).
- During the pandemic, there have been no changes to the bylaw to permit longer stays. However, in general, enforcement of violations for overstays has reduced. In addition, enforcement around schools is currently by request only.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lon LaClaire at 604-873-7336 or lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
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City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca
604.873.7666



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam,

Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

MEMORANDUM

January 18, 2021

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, Acting City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Lynda Graves, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Gail Pickard, Civic Engagement and Communications Acting Director
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Anita Zaenker, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Neil Monckton, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Alvin Singh, Communications Director, Mayor's Office
Paul Storer, Director of Transportation
Taryn Scollard, Director of Streets

FROM: Lon LaClaire
General Manager of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Passenger Zone and School Pick-up and Drop-off practices during COVID-19
(RTS 014146)

In response to an enquiry on the floor of Council at the October 20, 2020 City Council meeting, City staff have compiled the following summary outlining enforcement practices regarding passenger zones and pick-up and drop-off areas near schools during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The intent of passenger zones is to allow for the pick-up and drop-off of passengers close to building entrances. Typically, they are in place near theatres, hotels, restaurants/bars, day cares, and medical clinics where on-site pick-up and drop-off is not available. On-street pick-up and drop-off areas are also designated in specific locations adjacent to schools and are typically signed as "No Parking School Days" or "Three Minute Parking School Days".

As per the Street and Traffic Bylaw, passenger zones and three-minute parking zones can be stopped in to load or unload passengers for up to three minutes and any "No Parking" zone can be stopped in for up to five minutes. In practice, Parking Enforcement Officers will allow up to six minutes if a vehicle is actively loading or unloading. Furthermore, more time to load or unload passengers is allotted to persons with disabilities; vehicles displaying a valid SPARC¹ placard (disability placard) may stop for up to 30 minutes.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there have been no changes to the Street and Traffic By-law that would allow for longer stays to occur and staff are not planning on bringing forward a change of this nature. Given the convenient location of passenger zones, there is often high

¹ Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia

demand for this limited curb space. If vehicles are allowed to remain in passenger zones for long periods of time, this increases the chances of more vehicles arriving than there is space available. This is frustrating for other drivers trying to use the passenger zone and can lead to double parking, stopping in front of driveways, and other safety issues. A secondary impact of longer stopping times in passenger zones is that it decreases the efficiency of enforcement; the longer the stopping time permitted, the longer it takes to enforce.

Nonetheless, staff understand the need to be flexible in the enforcement of pick-up and drop-off areas, dependent upon the context of the situation. In general, enforcement of violations for over staying in passenger zones has dropped during the COVID-19 pandemic. When comparing passenger zone violations in September-November 2019 with violations for the same period in 2020, they are down 10%.

Additionally, enforcement around schools is currently only conducted upon the request of the schools in response to observed safety or operational issues and is coordinated through monthly meetings between the Vancouver School Board, City Engineering staff (Traffic and Data Management and Parking Enforcement), and the Vancouver Police Department. If there are no safety or operational issues raised, enforcement activity is minimal.

I trust that this response has brought greater clarity to the issue raised at Council; however, should you have any further questions, please feel free to reach out to Taryn Scollard at taryn.scollard@vancouver.ca.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lon LaClaire', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lon LaClaire, M.Eng., P.Eng.
General Manager, Engineering Services

604.873.7336 | lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca