
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Report ENG-27-2023 Modified Short Term Parking Restrictions on Caithness Street East - Caledonia



For Consideration by Council in Committee on November 21, 2023

OBJECTIVE:

To provide additional short term parking along Caithness Street East in Caledonia in response to feedback from local businesses related to the recent turning lane reconfiguration at the intersection with Argyle Street North.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report ENG-27-2023 Modified Short Term Parking Restrictions on Caithness Street East – Caledonia be received;
2. AND THAT Schedule “B” No Stopping – Caledonia and Schedule “D” Restricted Parking – Caledonia of Haldimand County Parking Control By-law 307/02 be amended as outlined in Report ENG-27-2023.

Prepared by: Kristopher R. Franklin, Manager, Engineering Services

Respectfully submitted: Tyson Haedrich, M. Eng., P. Eng., General Manager of Engineering & Capital Works

Approved: Cathy Case, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Caithness Street East is a main road in Caledonia that services residential, commercial and institutional land uses entering the downtown core. The 2019 Caledonia Master servicing plan identified this intersection as operating at an overall level of service of C during the evening peak hour and with the projected growth it is expected to operate at Level of Service E by 2035.

With the current level of development, the intersection had begun to function poorly and staff were tasked to make improvements to the overall operational efficiency of the intersection. Lane configuration and parking changes were implemented early in the fall of 2023 as a part of a resurfacing project.

Based on follow up traffic and turning movement counts, the lane reconfiguration resulted in a significant improvement in traffic operations, however residents and businesses in the area identified that the parking restrictions were making it difficult for residents to access the businesses.

Through consultation with the Caledonia BIA, local businesses and the Caledonia Legion, a modified lane configuration and parking plan was developed to allow for short term access for drop off and pick up to businesses while still providing for enhanced traffic operations of the intersection when compared to the original configuration.

The proposed configuration is projected to operate at an enhanced level of service in the short to mid-term before requiring additional measures to keep up with the increased traffic due to growth.

BACKGROUND:

Caithness Street East is a main road in Caledonia that services residential, commercial and institutional land uses entering the downtown core. This road is heavily travelled by a mix of vehicles and has on-street parking with sidewalks on the north side and a mix of sidewalks and asphalt pathway on the south side from Argyle Street North to Aberdeen Street.

The 2019 Caledonia Master servicing plan identified this intersection as operating at an overall Level of Service C during the evening peak hour and with the projected growth it is expected to operate at a Level of Service E by 2035.

With the current level of development, the intersection has begun to function poorly and staff were tasked to make improvements to the overall operational efficiency particularly the westbound to southbound left turn. A lane configuration and parking restriction plan was presented to Council at the August 29, 2023 Council-in-Committee meeting through Report ENG-14-2023 Turning Lane Improvements and Parking Restrictions for Caithness Street East – Caledonia (see Reference 1) and the changes were implemented with the resurfacing of Caithness Street East in early October 2023.b

A traffic and turning movement count completed after the implementation has confirmed that the realigned intersection has an overall increase in efficiency greater than 100%. This means during the morning, noon and evening peak times studied, the intersection was able to pass double the amount of traffic through the intersection compared to before the realignment. An additional observation highlighted the number of pedestrians using the traffic signals also increased, which is likely a result of pedestrians parking further from the intersection and using the signalized intersection to cross the street. The traffic count data also showed that approximately 50% of the traffic made the left turning movement 25% travelled straight through the intersection and 25% turned right.

Further discussions with residents and businesses post realignment identified a shortage in very short term parking resulting in patrons and delivery drivers having to walk a considerable distance to make drop off and pick up transactions. This prompted further review of the realigned intersection with the goal to add additional short term (15 min) parking closer to the intersection on the north side of Caithness East while still maintaining improved operation and efficiency of the intersection compared to the original configuration.

ANALYSIS:

Through consultation with the Caledonia BIA, local businesses and the Caledonia Legion, a modified lane configuration and parking plan was developed to allow for short term access for drop off and pick up to businesses while still providing for enhanced traffic operations of the intersection when compared to the original configuration.

The proposed lane realignment (see Attachment 1) requires converting two 2 hour parking spaces into one larger 15 minute space on the south side of Caithness Street East (at the Caledonia Legion) intended for drop off and deliveries and creating four marked 15 minute parking spaces on the north side of Caithness Street East (two each in front of the Lolly Cannabis and Libro Credit Union buildings).

To accommodate the changes, the westbound to northbound right turning lane will be shortened. This will reduce the amount of storage and it is expected that the efficiency of the intersection will drop from the current configuration. However, this will also allow the dedicated left turn lane to be lengthened which should offset some of the effects of the shorter right turn lane.

The proposed overall parking configuration (see Attachment 2) is expected to operate at an enhanced level of service for approximately five years and will then require additional measures to keep up with the projected increased traffic due to growth.

To implement the modifications to the turning lanes as well as the proposed parking changes, the following amendments to the Haldimand County Parking Control By-law 307/02 are required:

Parking Control By-law 307/02 Schedule “B” No Stopping – Caledonia to delete

Street	Side	From	To	Period
Caithness Street East	Both	Argyle Street North	70 metres east	Anytime

Parking Control By-law 307/02 Schedule “B” No Stopping – Caledonia to add

Street	Side	From	To	Period
Caithness Street East	North	Argyle Street North	38 metres east	Anytime
Caithness Street East	South	Argyle Street North	78 metres east	Anytime

Parking Control By-law 307/02 Schedule “D” Restricted Parking – Caledonia to delete

Street	Side	Area	Time	Period
Caithness Street East	Both	A point 70 metres east of Argyle Street North to Edinburgh Square East	8am to 2am	2 hours

Parking Control By-law 307/02 Schedule “D” Restricted Parking – Caledonia to add

Street	Side	Area	Time	Period
Caithness Street East	North	A point 38 metres east of Argyle Street North to a point 75 metres east of Argyle Street North	Anytime	15 Minutes
Caithness Street East	North	A point 75 metres east of Argyle Street North to Edinburgh Square East	8am to 2am	2 hours
Caithness Street East	South	A point 78 metres east of Argyle Street North to a point 95 metres east of Argyle Street North	Anytime	15 Minutes
Caithness Street East	South	A point 95 metres east of Argyle Street North to Edinburgh Square East	8am to 2am	2 hours

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

The costs to implement the line painting and parking changes is approximately \$5,000 and will be included as part of the existing capital project budget. Roads Operations will be responsible for implementing the signage changes.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:

The Caledonia BIA, Caledonia Legion and several of the businesses at the Caithness Street East at the Argyle Street intersection were consulted in the development of the proposed modifications to the lane configuration and parking plan. The groups were generally in support of the modifications and are aware that further changes may be required within the next five years as development progresses.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: Yes

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

REFERENCES:

1. [Report ENG-14-2023 Turning Lane Improvements and Parking Restrictions for Caithness Street East - Caledonia](#)

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Modified Short Term Parking Layout.
2. Overall Parking Plan.