



Elm Street On Street Parking

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Tuesday, April 2, 2013





Elm Street On Street Parking



Background

- Trial period from June 1 to September 7, 2012
- 2 hrs free parking from 9AM to 4PM, Mon. to Fri.
- 4 hr free parking was available on weekends and overnight from 6PM to 7:30AM
- 18 Parking spots
- Construction on Brady/Douglas



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Safety Issues

- Need for frequent lane changes
- Difficult maneuvers to access and exit parking spaces
- Exiting vehicle into busy lane
- Congestion creating queuing over railway crossing



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Safety Issues

- 2 Collisions occurred during the trial period:
 - Elm @ Elgin – lane change
 - Elm west of Lisgar – lane change



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Railway Crossing

- Letter received from Transport Canada
- Queue lengths will extend past railway crossing between 3PM and 4PM
- Clearing of queue takes longer with parking



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Public Comments

- 3-1-1 received 70 calls from 64 individuals – all calls were negative towards parking trial
- Concerns were from citizens that reside in all areas of the City, highlighting Elm as an important arterial link



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Traffic Volumes

- Traffic counts taken in May and August
- Volumes would be influenced by construction on Brady/Douglas
- Eastbound traffic increase 2% and heavy vehicles increased 30%
- Westbound traffic increased by 11% and heavy vehicles increased by 26%
- Small discrepancy between 2011 and 2012 traffic counts



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Speed and Delay Studies

- 26 vehicle runs between Elgin and Lisgar, between 9AM and 4PM
- There is a cost to traffic congestion

	Before	During
Eastbound	60 s	96 s
Westbound	78 s	102 s



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Intersection Capacity

- Turning movement counts completed on May 9 and Aug. 14
- Elm and Elgin level of service reduced from B and C to C and D
- Similar reductions in level of service would be experienced at Elm and Durham, and Elm at Lisgar



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Occupancy Rates

- 74 surveys of occupancy rates
- 42% utilization of free parking spots on Elm Street
- 75% to 90% utilization of paid parking spots in remainder of downtown (IBI Study)



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Occupancy Rates

- 50 License Plate Surveys
- 409 vehicles recorded
- 157 repeat vehicles
- 13 vehicles parked during 10% or more of the time



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Winter Maintenance

- Plowing around parked vehicles will leave windrows in areas that will become through lanes during rush hour
- Permanent parking will require an increase in the snow removal budget



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Parking Enforcement

- 59 violations between 4PM and 4:30PM
- 9 violations in the prohibited areas on Elm during the patrol shift



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Recommendation

- Based on a review of traffic operations, including:
 - Safety
 - Public Comments
 - Traffic Delay/Congestion
 - Occupancy Rates
 - Road Maintenance
- That parking not be permitted on Elm Street
- That the timing of the Ste. Anne Road Extension be evaluated



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Questions?