

**Idling Control By-law Review**

**Examen du Règlement sur la marche au ralenti**

**Committees' Recommendation(s)**

**That Council:**

- 1. Approve the proposed Idling Control By-law as described in this report and in the general form set out in Document 1 and repeal the Idling Control Bylaw (By-law 2007-266); and,**
- 2. Repeal Section 16 of the Noise By-law (By-law 2017-255, as amended) pertaining to the regulation of noise for idling vehicles as described in this report.**

**Recommandation(s) des Comités**

**Que le Conseil:**

- 1. approuve le Règlement sur la marche au ralenti proposé décrit dans le présent rapport, tel qu'il figure dans le document 1 et d'abroger le Règlement sur la marche au ralenti (no 2007-266); et,**
- 2. abroge l'article 16 du Règlement sur le bruit (no 2017-255, dans sa version modifiée) encadrant le bruit produit par les véhicules marchant au ralenti comme le décrit le présent rapport.**

Documentation / Documentation

1. Manager's Report, Business and Technical Support Services, Emergency and Protective Services Department, dated September 10, 2024 (ACS2024-EPS-PPD-0003).

Rapport de la gestionnaire, Services de soutien technique et aux activités, Direction générale des services de protection et d'urgence, daté le 10 septembre 2024(ACS2024-EPS-PPD-0003).

2. Extract of draft Minutes, Joint Environment and Climate Change Committee and Emergency Preparedness and Protective Services Committee, September 19, 2024.

Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal, Réunion conjointe du Comité de l'environnement et du changement climatique et du Comité des services de protection et de préparation aux situations d'urgence, le 19 septembre 2024.

**For the Information of Council**

The committee also approved the following directions to staff:

**Direction to staff** (Chair S. Menard)

That the General Manager of Emergency and Protective Services Department work with the Public Works Department to have signs installed urging drivers to be mindful of unnecessary idling below the 16, 8'x 4' existing Unsigned Parking Regulation Information Signs (refer to diagram 1) located along high volume corridors across the City, with the one-time total production and installation cost of \$6,000 to be funded within existing departmental budgets.

With Councillor S. Desroches dissenting.

**Direction to staff** (Councillor S. Devine)

That By-Law and Regulatory Services be directed to provide information to Council concurrent with or prior to Budget 2025, on the estimated cost and any potential

funding sources that would be required to hire up to two summer student by-law officers for a focused enforcement campaign of the new Idling By-Law during the summer of 2025, which would see these summer student officers undertake a progressive enforcement model that includes an educational component.

With Councillor S. Desroches dissenting.

### **Pour l'information du Conseil Municipal**

Le comité a également approuvé les directives suivantes au personnel :

#### **Instructions au personnel (Président S. Menard)**

Que le directeur général des Services de protection et d'urgence collabore avec la Direction générale des travaux publics en vue d'installer des panneaux de signalisation pour inciter les conducteurs à éviter la marche au ralenti inutile sous les seize panneaux informatifs de 8 pi x 4 pi affichés dans les stationnements réglementés non signalisés (voir diagramme 1) situés le long des corridors à volume élevé de la ville; les coûts ponctuels de 6 000 \$ pour la production et l'installation de ces panneaux seront financés à même les budgets actuels des directions générales.

Avec la dissidence du Conseiller S. Desroches.

#### **Instructions au personnel (conseiller S. Devine)**

Que les Services des règlements municipaux informent le Conseil, pendant ou avant le processus budgétaire de 2025, des coûts estimatifs et de toute source de financement potentielle à prévoir pour l'embauche, à l'été 2025, de deux étudiants à des postes d'été d'agents des règlements dans le cadre d'une campagne d'application du nouveau règlement municipal sur la marche au ralenti, postes dont les fonctions se fonderaient sur un modèle d'application progressif comprenant une composante éducative.

Avec la dissidence du Conseiller S. Desroches.

**Environment and Climate Change 4  
and Emergency Preparedness  
and Protective Services  
Committees'  
Joint Report 1  
2 October 2024**

**Comité de l'environnement et du  
changement climatique et Comité des  
services de protection et de préparation  
aux situations d'urgence - Rapport  
conjoint 1  
le 2 octobre 2024**

**Extract of Minutes 1  
Environment and Climate Change  
and Emergency Preparedness  
and Protective Services  
Committees'  
September 19, 2024**

**Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal 1  
Comité de l'environnement et du  
changement climatique et Comité des  
services de protection et de préparation  
aux situations d'urgence  
Le 19 septembre 2024**

Idling Control By-law Review

File No. ACS2024-EPS-PPD-0003 – City Wide

**Report Recommendation(s)**

**That the Joint Emergency Preparedness and Protective Services  
Committee and Environment and Climate Change Committee  
recommend Council:**

- 1. Approve the proposed Idling Control By-law as described in this report and in the general form set out in Document 1 and repeal the Idling Control Bylaw (By-law 2007-266); and,**
- 2. Repeal Section 16 of the Noise By-law (By-law 2017-255, as amended) pertaining to the regulation of noise for idling vehicles as described in this report.**

At the outset, Mr. Pierre Poirier, Acting General Manager, Emergency and Protective Services Department (EPSD) introduced Ms Valerie Bietlot, Manager, Business and Technical Support Services, EPSD, who in turn introduced Mr. Matthew Suatac, Specialist, By-law Review, EPSD. They each, in turn, spoke to a slide presentation overview of the report, a copy of which is held on file with the Office of the City Clerk.

Also present to respond to questions and to provide support were Mr. Roger Chapman, Director, By-law and Regulatory Services, EPSD, Ms Jennifer

Therkelson, Program Manager, By-law Enforcement Services, EPSD, and Ms Jennifer Pereira, Senior Legal Counsel, Legal Services Department.

The Committees then heard from the following public delegations:

- 1 Ms Jennifer Humphries<sup>+</sup>, Community Associations For Environmental Sustainability (CAFES)
- 2 Mr. William van Geest, Interim Executive Director, Ecology Ottawa
- 3 Ms Kestrel Wraggett, Business Development Manager, EnviroCentre
- 4 Mr. Thomas Walker<sup>+</sup>, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Carleton University
- 5 Ms M. Joan Freeman\*

Correspondence was also received from the following individuals:

- 1 Mr. Chris Higginson\*, ProTherm Mechanical Contracting
- 2 Mr. Bruce Martineau\*
- 3 Mr. Jake Cole\*, President, Ottawa-Carleton Wildlife Centre
- 4 Ms Marianne Ariganello\* (*Added on 20-09-2024*)

[ <sup>+</sup> Slide presentations are held on file with the Office of the City Clerk. ]

[ \* Written / emailed submissions are held on file with the Office of the City Clerk. ]

Following Committee discussions, Chair Menard and Councillor Devine submitted the following Directions to Staff, which staff agreed to accept:

**Direction to staff** (Chair S. Menard)

That the General Manager of Emergency and Protective Services Department work with the Public Works Department to have signs installed urging drivers to be mindful of unnecessary idling below the 16, 8'x 4' existing Unsigned Parking Regulation Information Signs (refer to diagram 1) located along high volume corridors across the City, with the one-time total

production and installation cost of \$6,000 to be funded within existing departmental budgets.

With Councillor S. Desroches dissenting.

**Direction to staff** (Councillor S. Devine)

That By-Law and Regulatory Services be directed to provide information to Council concurrent with or prior to Budget 2025, on the estimated cost and any potential funding sources that would be required to hire up to two summer student by-law officers for a focused enforcement campaign of the new Idling By-Law during the summer of 2025, which would see these summer student officers undertake a progressive enforcement model that includes an educational component.

With Councillor S. Desroches dissenting.

The following Motion was then introduced by Councillor D. Brown:

**Motion N<sup>o</sup> ECCC/EPPSC 01-01**

Moved by Councillor D. Brown:

**WHEREAS the Idling Control By-Law is presently very challenging to enforce; and**

**WHEREAS the proposed changes contemplated in the staff report will put further pressures on By-law and Regulatory Services while also reducing enforceability; and**

**WHEREAS it is poor practice to introduce by-laws as a public awareness tool when the City has extensive public communications tools at its disposal; and**

**WHEREAS staff have failed to demonstrate that the changes proposed in the report will meaningfully reduce net emissions, opting instead to provide the Joint Committee with unsubstantiated information about the maximum potential benefit of the proposed changes; and**

**WHEREAS the Joint Committee does not have sufficient information to justify approving the proposed changes to the Idling Control By-law.**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Joint Emergency Preparedness and Protective Services Committee and Environment and Climate Change Committee refer the report back to staff and direct staff to return to the Emergency Preparedness and Protective Services Committee with the following new information:**

- a. **What are the net emissions changes anticipated by the staff proposed by-law based on both the actual changes in resident idling behaviour and the emissions produced by increased by-law activity?**
- b. **What can be done to improve enforceability of the existing by-law prior to introductions of greater restrictions?**
- c. **To what extent would different approaches for idling inside and outside of the City's urban boundary help improve overall enforceability of the by-law?**
- d. **Since May of 2021, how many employee hours and how much in staff costs have been incurred on working on this by-law?**
- e. **Since May of 2021, how many external consultants have been contracted and at what cost were these contracts issued?**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff propose an updated version of the Idling Control By-law that retains the current exemptions and the proposed additional exemptions proposed in the report but retains all other provisions of the current By-law; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that staff be directed to conduct a dedicated communications campaign directed at discouraging idling and informing residents about the climate benefits of reducing idling.**

The Motion was put to a vote and LOST on a division of five (5) "Yeas" to eleven (11) "Nays":

For (5): Councillors D. Brown, L. Dudas, M. Luloff, T. Tierney and Vice-Chair D. Hill

Against (11): Councillors J. Bradley, C. Curry, S. Desroches, S. Devine, L. Johnson, T. Kavanagh, R. King, S. Plante, Vice-Chair M. Carr, Chair S. Menard and Chair R. Brockington

### **Lost (5 to 11)**

The report recommendations were then put before the Joint Committees and were voted upon separately. Both clauses recommendations were 'CARRIED' on a division of eleven (11) 'Yeas' to five (5) 'Nays' as follows:

**That the Joint Emergency Preparedness and Protective Services Committee and Environment and Climate Change Committee recommend Council:**

- 1. Approve the proposed Idling Control By-law as described in this report and in the general form set out in Document 1 and repeal the Idling Control Bylaw (By-law 2007-266);**

For (11): Councillors J. Bradley, C. Curry, S. Desroches, S. Devine, L. Johnson, T. Kavanagh, R. King, S. Plante, Vice-Chair M. Carr, Chair S. Menard and Chair R. Brockington

Against (5): Councillors D. Brown, L. Dudas, M. Luloff, T. Tierney and Vice-Chair D. Hill

### **Carried (11 to 5)**



**That the Joint Emergency Preparedness and Protective Services  
Committee and Environment and Climate Change Committee  
recommend Council:**

**2. Repeal Section 16 of the Noise By-law (By-law 2017-255, as  
amended) pertaining to the regulation of noise for idling vehicles as  
described in this report.**

For (11): Councillors J. Bradley, C. Curry, S. Desroches,  
S. Devine, L. Johnson, T. Kavanagh, R. King, S. Plante,  
Vice-Chair M. Carr, Chair S. Menard and Chair  
R. Brockington

Against (5): Councillors D. Brown, L. Dudas, M. Luloff, T. Tierney  
and Vice-Chair D. Hill

**Carried (11 to 5)**