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## **Main Street Additional Accessible Parking and Van Accessible Sign Information Report**

Report Number: INFO-2025-09

Department(s): Public Works Services

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Distribution Date: May 22, 2025

In accordance with the Procedure By-law, any member of Council may make a request to the Town Clerk that this Report be placed on an upcoming Committee of the Whole agenda for discussion.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to outline the results of review for an additional accessible parking space on Main Street just north of Timothy Street, and to illustrate a new accessible van sign.

### **Background**

At the regular meeting on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Town of Newmarket Council adopted recommendations from Council Report 2024-53. This report dealt with setting the accessible parking spaces to a 3-hour limit and recommended an additional accessible parking space in the Downtown area (recommendation #3).

Further, the Accessible Advisory Committee requested staff to review a new “van accessible” sign.

### **Discussion**

Staff reviewed both issues and presented them to the Accessibility Advisory Committee on March 20, 2025.

### **Additional Accessible Parking Space**

While the report recommended an additional space be within the Downtown area, the specific request from the Accessibility Advisory Committee was to have the space in

front of #217 Main Street South (see Appendix A). Staff reviewed the accessible parking locations within the Downtown area and found that most on-street parking areas have one (1) accessible parking space with the notable exception of the parking area between Timothy Street and Botsford Street. This street section has six (6) on-street parking spaces grouped into a 2 set and a 4 set. The additional accessible parking space on this street section would be consistent with the other parking sections on Main Street South.

The requested location at #217 Main Street South is the northernmost parking space within the 4 set of on-street parking. Staff agree that this location is ideal since the signage can be installed on the existing pole and because no accessible on street parking currently exists in that section. Also, the 2 set of on street parking becomes a street patio for a portion of the year which would eliminate these parking spaces as a good year-round candidate location.

### **“Van Accessible” Sign**

The “Van Accessible” sign mounted under the accessible sign is noted as a minimum in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (section 80.34). However, the current sign does not indicate that the space is for side loading vans, which require additional parking space to operate safely and efficiently. The enhanced sign would better convey this message and is depicted below both from the wording and icon presented.

Newmarket’s Accessibility Advisory Committee agrees that the new signage better informs and communicates the intended use of these parking spaces.

Existing



New Signage



This new signage would replace the four (4) existing signs in the Downtown area.

### **Consultation**

This information was presented at the March 20, 2025, Accessibility Advisory Committee. Legislative Services staff were consulted as part of this report.

## **Conclusion**

A new accessible parking space will be added to the parking space in front of #217 Main Street South.

The new sign replacing the existing 'van accessible' sign will better inform the public of the nature and use of the parking spaces specifically for side loading vans.

## **Council Priority Association**

This report aligns with the following Council Priority: Diverse, Welcoming, and Inclusive Community

## **Human Resource Considerations**

None.

## **Budget Impact**

The necessary signage would be less than \$500.00. These funds would be available in the Public Works Service Operating budget.

## **Attachments**

Appendix A – Accessible Parking Space Location

## **Approval for Distribution**

Mark Agnoletto, Director, Public Works Services

Peter Noehammer, Commissioner, Development and Infrastructure Service

## **Report Contact**

For more information on this report, contact [info@newmarket.ca](mailto:info@newmarket.ca).

## Appendix A – Location of New Accessible Parking Space



New Accessible Parking Space

