



GRAND VALLEY

STAFF REPORT

To: Mayor and Members of Council
From: Brad Haines, By-law & Property Standards Enforcement Officer
Meeting Date: April 28, 2026
Report Number: 2026-075
Subject: Spruyt Avenue and Accessible Parking Review

Recommendation

THAT Council receive the report Spruyt Avenue and Accessible Parking Review;
AND FURTHER THAT Council approves the amendments to Schedule 'D' of Traffic and Parking By-law 2019-72, as amended, and directs staff to present the necessary amended by-law for adoption.
AND FURTHER THAT Council directs staff to implement exemptions to By-law 2019-72 for motorists with accessible parking permits to permit motorists to park for 2 additional hours and directs staff to present the necessary amending by-law for adoption.

Executive Summary

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the no parking zone on the north side of Spruyt Avenue and seek Council's feedback regarding implementation of an exemption for accessible parking spaces within Grand Valley.

Key Findings

The Town receives complaints multiple times throughout the year regarding parking issues during drop-off and dismissal times at the Grand Valley and District Public School. By-law

Enforcement has attended the area during drop-off times and dismissal times (8:30-9am / 2:30-3pm) and have identified several safety concerns that needed to be addressed. Following discussions and review of staff's recommendations, Council directed staff to amend the Traffic and Parking By-law as follows:

- No Parking on North Side of Rainey Drive, as discussed
- No Parking on the Northside of Spruyt Avenue, as discussed
- Amend parking on the south side of Rainey Drive from a drop-off zone to one-hour parking zone.

Council requested staff investigate possible parking exemptions for accessible parking permit holders within the Town of Grand Valley. The town currently has a total of 8 accessible parking spaces on public property. Currently there is no exemption in place and accessible permit holders must abide by all posted signage and regulations or risk getting a parking infraction notice.

Financial Implications

Costs associated to additional no parking signage to the north side of Spruyt.

Report

Background

On January 27, 2026 Council received report [Grand Valley and District Public School Parking Concerns](#) which proposed several options to address parking concerns regarding the Community Safety Zone surrounding Grand Valley and District Public School.

On February 24, 2026 council received a further report [Amendment to Traffic and Parking By-law 2019-72](#) and approved all necessary amendments with the exception of an amendment for a no parking area on the north side of Spruyt Avenue. Staff recommended this amendment be delayed allowing time for Council to engage with the Trustee for the Upper Grand and District School Board to attempt to mitigate additional solutions and a removal of that parking zone could prematurely exacerbate the parking issues.

In addition to parking concerns at the Grand Valley Public School, Council discussed amendments to the Town's accessible parking. Currently the [Traffic and Parking By-law 2019-72](#) does not provide any exemptions for accessible permit holders. Drivers with a valid accessible

parking permit may use designated accessible parking spaces but are otherwise required to comply with all standard parking regulations, the same as other motorists.

Council considered an exemption to accessible parking that would allow accessible permit holders to park beyond posted time limits (for example, exceeding the two-hour time limit on Main Street).

Discussion

Spruyt Parking

By-law Enforcement initially recommended the No Parking Zone along Spruyt Avenue be implemented over the summer months in time for the start of the school year (September 2026). Upon further discussion, it was suggested that implementing these changes in June of 2026 would be a more strategic time. During the month of June, By-law Enforcement can issue warnings, similar to how Rainey Drive was managed. During this time, it will allow residents time to become aware of parking changes so that in September 2026, By-law Enforcement can immediately issue Parking Infraction Notices, if needed, and keep consistency for the 2026/2027 school year and beyond. Despite multiple attempts of open dialog with the involved parties, at the time this report was generated, no action has been taken by The Grand Valley and District Public School or The Upper Grand District School Board to improve the parking.

The amendment will result in changes to Schedule “D”- No Parking Zones as identified below:

Schedule ‘D’ – No Parking Zones

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3		Column 4
Highway	Side or Sides	From	To	Time
Spruyt Avenue	North	Main Street N	Crozier Street	Anytime

Accessible Parking

Currently Grand Valley has eight (8) accessible parking spaces as shown below:

- Amaranth St. East (North Side at Library) x2
- Main St. North, north of Amaranth St.
- Main St. South, east side, north of Mill St.
- Grand Valley and District Community Centre
- Grand Valley and District Medical Dental Centre
- Grand Valley Municipal Office Parking Lot
- Plan 197, Pt Lot 1 N, Pt Lot 2, Main Street South at Amaranth St. East, within public parking at Grocery store.

Nearby municipalities such as Shelburne currently allow motorists with a valid accessible permit to park in an accessible parking space for up to 3 hours, while Orangeville and Centre Wellington do not have any exemptions and must abide by all posted / signed regulations. Larger cities such as Hamilton allow for accessible parking permit holders to park in an accessible parking space up to 12 hours and are exempt from payment in most municipal parking lots. While Grand Valley does not have municipal paid parking lots, initiating an accessible parking permit exemption would likely benefit some residents and motorists. Upon reviewing a wide range of municipal by-laws, a list of more common accessible parking exemptions were noted, such as:

- +1 hour of posted signage, with valid accessible permit
- 12 hour limit, with valid accessible permit
- 24 hour limit, with valid accessible permit
- Winter Regulations Exemptions (allowing street parking November 15th – April 15th 2am-6am).

One alternative to the above could be allowing accessible permit holders to park anywhere as long as traffic is not being impeded in any way, this could include no parking zones and fire routes. While it is a possibility, this is likely to cause issues with emergency services personnel and could cause additional parking infractions as motorists tend to park in areas where they see other vehicles parked, whether they have a valid accessible permit or not.

If council wishes to implement exemptions for accessible parking, staff recommend permitting any motorist with a valid accessible permit to parking for an additional 2 hours of any posted regulations in an accessible parking spot. This would allow motorists with a valid accessible permit additional time to access and return from their destination, while ensuring permit holders are not taking advantage of the exemption in using it for instances such as overnight parking. Should council proceed with any of the above recommendations regarding accessible parking permit parking exemptions, the following amendment to the by-law would need to be made; Under 'Time Limited Parking Zones - Exemptions' (Schedule H of the Traffic and parking By-law) '*Any motorist displaying a valid accessible parking permit may park in such marked accessible parking space in excess of (# of hours / exemption selected) as posted*'.

Adding the above highlighted verbiage to the 'Exemptions' section of Part 2 of the Traffic and Parking By-law would also be needed in the amendment.

The current parking exemptions for Time Limited Parking Zones (Schedule H) within Traffic and Parking By-law 2019-72 are posted below;

EXEMPTIONS

Enforcement of the maximum period allowed on Amaranth Street West and Mill Street West shall not apply to auto repair shop client vehicles, providing that:

- a. The vehicle is owned by a client of Silverdale Motors or Hillside Auto;*
- b. The vehicle is clearly marked with an exemption certificate (sticker, tag, card) so as to allow the Town to easily recognize client vehicles; and,*
- c. A maximum of 5 cars per auto repair shop business shall be exempt at any given time.*

2. Exemptions shall not apply:

- a. Between the overnight hours of 1800 – 0600 hours.*
- b. Outside of the posted business hours for the auto repair shop named on the exemption certificate’.*

Under Part 2 – Rules of the Road of the Traffic and Parking By-law 2019-72, the below are the existing exemptions;

‘Exemptions

102. The provisions for parking and stopping shall not, if compliance therewith would be impractical, apply to:

- a. An Authorized Vehicle, including a vehicle registered to a municipal corporation or registered to a utility, while actually performing work on behalf of a municipal corporation within the Town, or while responding to an emergency; or,*
- b. When the driver or operator of a vehicle is in compliance with the direction of a police officer or a traffic control device’.*

Financial Impact

The only expense would be adding additional no parking signage to the north side of Spruyt upon the amendments to the by-law being confirmed. The majority of said signage is likely already in stock with Public Works.

Consultations

None

Attachments

2019-72 Consolidated – Traffic and Parking By-law – Revised February 2026

This report was submitted by

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This report was approved by
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