

# **VRDC Parking Committee: Recommendations for City Managed Accessible Parking Improvement**

**Updated to 03 August 2018**

The Victoria Disability Resource Centre strongly urges the City of Victoria to adopt a recognised standard for all accessible parking. The Canadian Standards Association CAN/CSA B651 Accessible Design for the Built Environment is a nationally recognised accessibility standard that provides clear guidance on the recommended design and number for all types of accessible parking including (general passenger) loading zones, parallel and angle parking.

## **Numbering Key (Priority):**

- 1.X: Immediate action and mostly easy, inexpensive changes.
- 2.x: Medium term actions, may require engagement of consultant or city staff for review the change or municipal legislative change.
- 3.x: Requires extensive study including input from all stakeholders, particularly accessible parking user groups.

Items within a priority group are numbered for convenience of reference, but do not identify a specific priority within the group.

Pri	Item	Description	Action	Reference
1.1	Improve Signage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Education of new international symbol for accessibility</li> <li>2. Highlight "reserved 24 hours"</li> <li>3. Clarify regulatory wording</li> </ol>		C of V Streets and Traffic Bylaw 09-079
1.2	Accessible Parking Stall Identification	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use of blue curb paint/parking space lines for easier identification</li> <li>2. Include international symbol for accessibility pavement marking</li> </ol>		<p>Streets and Traffic Bylaw 09-079</p> <p>CSA B651 section 9.4.3</p>
1.3	Research and install more accessible parking payment kiosks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research and identify parking payment kiosks that have displays that are easier to read</li> <li>2. Height and button operation difficult for some users</li> </ol>		CSA B651 section 6.8.6
1.4	Update City Public Information Portal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Update accessible parking stall location map</li> <li>2. Highlight capability to use parking app and other payment methods</li> <li>3. Highlight parking alternatives, including additional time allowance at all meters that permit 90 minute and longer parking</li> </ol>		
1.5	Allow re-metering	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Permit re-metering by people displaying accessible parking permits</li> <li>2. City of Victoria By-law Change</li> </ol>		

<b>1.6</b>	Ensure parking stall physical suitability	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immediately remove obstructions as identified (eg, post boxes, planters etc)</li> <li>2. Review recognised parking design standards</li> </ol>		CSA B651 section 9
<b>1.7</b>	Signage/information for additional hour free for placard holders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Signage as appropriate, including on all payment kiosks, that identify options for people with accessibility needs, including additional hour of free parking provided at all meters that permit 90 minute or longer parking.</li> </ol>		C of V Streets and Traffic Bylaw 09-079
<b>1.8</b>	Physical design of city parkade parking for persons with disabilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Most city parkade parking does not meet physical requirements for parking for persons with disabilities</li> <li>2. Requires review and update to meet BC Building Code or another recognised standard</li> </ol>		BC Building Code CSA B651 section 9 ADA Section 502

Pri	Item	Description	Action	Reference
2.1	Increased penalty for illegal parking and misuse of accessible parking stalls	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See Report by David Willows to City 2018, for penalty comparison of Canadian jurisdictions</li> <li>2. Consider immediate tow-away of non-compliant parked vehicles</li> </ol>		<p>C of V Streets and Traffic Bylaw 09-079</p> <p>Report: <i>Designated On-Street Parking for People with Disabilities in the City of Victoria</i>, April 26, 2018</p>
2.2	Accessible Parking Stall Location and quantity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. City to engage parking consultant to review parking, including standard accessible and van accessible parking</li> </ol>	City of Vic	
2.3	Increase 2-hour time limit at yellow (accessible) meters to 3.5 hours	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Users pay for all time used at designated accessible meters</li> <li>2. Brings parking time in line with all other 90-minute meters for accessible parking permit holders</li> <li>3. Permits use of designated spaces for adapted vehicles for same period as standard parking stalls.</li> </ol>	City of Vic	C of V Streets and Traffic Bylaw 09-079

Pri	Item	Description	Action	Reference
3.1	Tiered placard system	1. Requires extensive research to determine impacts including regulatory and stakeholder review, particularly from user groups. 2. Refer to City of Victoria's Parking Consultant		

**City of Victoria Accessibility Working Group Motion:**

The Victoria Disability Resource Centre and the VDRC's Parking Committee supports the City of Victoria's Accessibility Working Group motion passed on April 9, 2018:

*The AWG recommends to Council that it direct staff to prepare a 2019 budget submission for a one-time expense for a consultant to undertake a comprehensive study of accessible parkade and street parking in the City of Victoria to develop recommendations for bringing spaces up to CSA Standard B651 or another equivalent standard and ensuring that their numbers and locations are adequate to meet existing need, recognizing that all designated spaces are not available for use at all times, and include plans for expansion to meet future needs. Recommendations may be in the form of a multi-year plan and include other options for increasing the supply of accessible parking for people with accessible parking permits who do not need additional space to enter and exit their vehicles.*

## **Questions to the City of Victoria:**

1. Who does the City of Victoria give permission to use accessible parking stalls without an accessible parking permit?
2. What action does the City of Victoria take to ensure accessibility is maintained when an accessible parking space is closed due to planned construction, community and other events?
3. Does the City of Victoria have a tow-away policy for parking infractions?
  - a. Who has the authority to tow a vehicle parked in violation of municipal by-law?
  - b. Can a parking ambassador request a vehicle be towed once a parking ticket has been issued?
  - c. Does the city have a contractor they use for towing illegally parked vehicles?
4. Why have none of the basic improvements, including moving easily portable obstructions, been undertaken yet?