



Report
Staff Report
 The Corporation of the City of Brampton
 10/23/2024

Date: 2024-09-04

Subject: **Residential Bollard Report (RM 9/2024)**

Contact: Shane Loftus, Manager, Transportation Right-Of-Way and Safety

Report number: Public Works & Engineering-2024-753

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the report from Shane Loftus, Manager, Transportation Right-Of-Way & Safety to the Committee of Council Meeting of October 23, 2024, re: **Residential Bollards (RM 9/2024)**, be received; and
2. That Council supports installation of residential bollards within a resident's private property, but not within the City's Right-of-way.

OVERVIEW:

- **At the March 20th Committee of Council meeting, a delegation was received regarding the use of bollards on residential properties to combat the rise of auto thefts in the City of Brampton.**
- **Council passed motion CW078-2024, referring the use of residential bollards to staff for consideration.**
- **Staff support the installation of residential bollards within a resident's private property, but not within the City's Right-of-way.**

BACKGROUND:

At the March 20th Committee of Council meeting, a delegation was received regarding the use of bollards on residential properties to combat the rise of auto thefts in the City of Brampton.

Council passed motion CW078-2024, referring the use of residential bollards to staff for consideration.

At the June 19th Committee of Council Meeting, staff were directed to bring a recommendation report forward to Council with additional details, including assessment of staffing and financial implications should there be any associated with this work; and to establish the appropriate standard operating procedures, protocols and relevant enacting by-laws to offer the option for residents to install residential bollards.

CURRENT SITUATION:

Current setback allowances allow staff to maintain the right-of-way without risk to private property. Allowing bollards to encroach on City property introduces potential risks during routine maintenance, such as snow plowing or mud jacking, especially if the bollard is in an upright position. Underground utility work may also damage or require removal of the bollard, even though an Encroachment Agreement would specify that the property owner is responsible for replacement. Despite this, homeowners may still file complaints with the City.

The installation of bollards on the public right of way could also impede emergency service access by blocking access for emergency service vehicles to respond to a call at a residential address.

Investigating Service Requests from complainants will increase City staff workloads. Bollards reduce driveway space, potentially increasing on-street parking demand. In areas with single-car driveways, full-sized trucks may not fit with a bollard in place. The space taken by bollards could also lead to the denial of curb cut requests for driveway widening.

If bollards are permitted to encroach within the City's right-of-way, this would require an Encroachment Agreement, as is the current practice with any installation that requires encroachment onto City's lands. Encroachment Agreements are registered on the property and the property owner is required to notify the City when the property has been sold, so a new agreement can be entered into between the City and the new property owner. Experience shows that property owners may sell without notifying the City, and new owners may not enter into a new Encroachment Agreement, potentially leading to legal issues.

If bollards are allowed in the City's right-of-way, staff estimate that 1-2 full-time equivalents (FTEs) would be needed to manage permits, inspections, inquiries, and agreements. Staffing needs would depend on the volume of applications and budget approval.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

There are no immediate financial implications from the recommendations in this report. Should Council direct staff to proceed with this initiative, any funding requests, including

staffing resources, will be requested in a future budget submission. This will allow time to assess the actual number of applications received, which will be included in a future budget submission and presented for consideration.

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:

This report aligns with the “Health and Well-being” strategic focus area. It focuses on solutions to assist with creating a safer environment for residents.

CONCLUSION:

Staff do not recommend allowing installation of bollards within the City’s right-of way, rather residents should consider alternatives within their own property limits with proper setbacks or use other non-intrusive measures like parking in garages, install fencing, or theft mitigation devices (which may lower insurance costs). If bollards are limited to private property, residents would not need City permits and would not need City permits and would only need to follow local utility safety procedures before installation.

Authored by:

Reviewed by:

Shane Loftus
 Manager, Transportation Right-Of-
 Way and Safety
 Road Maintenance, Operations and
 Fleet

Kevin Minaker
 (A) Director, Road Maintenance,
 Operations and Fleet
 Public Works and Engineering

Approved by:

Approved by:

Peter Pilateris, M.A.Sc., P. Eng.
 Commissioner
 Public Works and Engineering

Marlon Kallideen
 Chief Administrative Officer