
Memorandum

To: Budget Standing Committee

Cc: Shelly Chemnitz, CAO
Kristine Douglas, Director FMS
Dan Dillon, Director TES
Margaret Kreuk, Manager Budgets and Capital
Christine Adams, Manager of Engineering and Construction

From: Brian Applebee, Manager of Transportation Services

Date: November 2, 2017

Subject: Paid Parking Spaces on Race Street

Background

At the September 18, 2017 Budget Standing Committee (BSC) meeting, Staff were directed to "...prepare a report regarding the addition of 6 to 10 paid parking spaces on Race Street". This memo addresses that request.

Race Street currently has two paid (metered) on-street parking spaces located on the north side of the street adjacent to #3 Race Street. With the relatively new redevelopment of the properties along Race Street, as well as the construction of the Meridian Centre, the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre and the Marilyn I Walker campus of Brock University, Race Street has become a destination as well as a gateway into the downtown for residents and visitors. Correspondingly, an increase in the demand for short-term on-street parking has been realized.

Parking Review

During consultation through the Downtown Parking Study, as well as through inquiries to staff through the normal course of business, staff have been requested review the potential to increase the number of on-street parking available on Race Street. Accordingly, staff have undertaken a review of the potential and feel that the opportunity exists to replace the two current paid parking spaces with up to 6 new on-street paid parking spaces on the south side of the street. Race Street is approximately 7.3 metres wide. This width is sufficient for one-side on-street parking, therefore the removal of the two parking spaces on the north side would be required in order to implement the parking on the south side.

While it is difficult to predict the exact expected increase in revenue, it would provide for an additional 4 paid parking spaces that are charged at the city's rate of \$1.50 per hour, Monday to Friday, from 09:00 to 18:00. The cost to install new meters is approximately \$800 each.

Related Initiatives

Additionally, staff are proposing several other initiatives in the Race Street corridor.

Firstly, staff is proposing to change Race Street, between Carlisle Street and McGuire Street, from two-way to one-way operation in the westbound direction. This is currently the predominant movement along the road. This change would reduce potential vehicle conflicts and provide additional space for delivery vehicles to stop temporarily.

Secondly, staff is proposing the construction of a curb extension on the east end of the island between Race Street and McGuire Street as well as a sidewalk around the perimeter. The curb extension would serve three purposes; it would effectively narrow the road intersection and therefore reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians, it would provide some additional buffer space between the intersection and the first parking space, and it would force westbound drivers to reduce their speed when turning from Race Street/McGuire Street onto Race Street. One-way operation would be required to support this recommended change.

Thirdly, staff is proposing the introduction of all-way stop control at the intersection of McGuire Street and Carlisle Street. The introduction of all-way stop control would require vehicles to stop, however it would also allow the city to paint a pedestrian crosswalk on the west side of the intersection from the Race Street parking lot to the sidewalk on the west side of Carlisle Street. The Race Street parking lot is a daily permit lot and is used as a Special Events lot when that program is in force. The sidewalk on the west side of Carlisle Street / north side of McGuire Street provides access to the FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre as well as linking to the sidewalk on IceDogs Way which leads to the Meridian Centre. The pedestrian crosswalk would be painted with the high visibility "ladder" crosswalk, similar to the crosswalk on the north side of the intersection.

Lastly, staff are recommending that the hard-surfaced boulevard area adjacent to #7 Race Street, which at one point had been a driveway access, be reinstated with sod and a barrier curb. Currently this area is utilized as illegal parking.

Each of these initiatives are illustrated in Appendix 1.

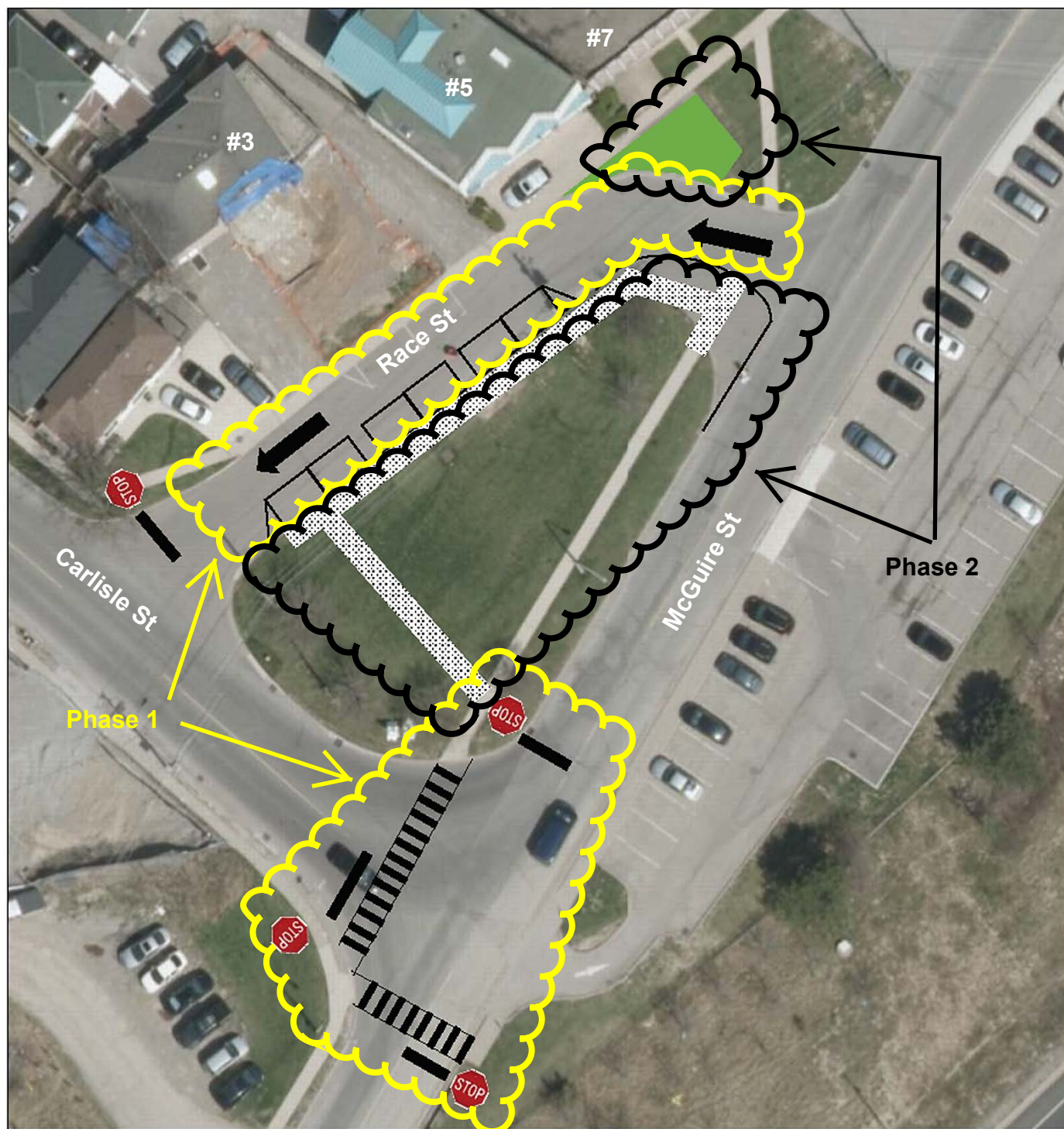
Timeline

The timing for these proposals are as follows:

Phase 1 – Fall 2017/Spring 2018 – Would include the conversion of Race Street from two-way to one-way, install new parking meters and move parking to south side of Race Street and install All-way Stop at the intersection of Carlisle Street and McGuire Street.

Phase 2 – Summer 2018 – Would include construction of the sidewalk in the island area, the extension of the curb on the island and the elimination of parking in boulevard adjacent to #7 Race Street and reinstatement of sod.

Race Street - Proposed Parking & Operational Revisions



Phase 1 - Fall 2017 / Spring 2018

Remove 2 Parking Spaces on North Side & Add 6 Parking Spaces on South Side
 Convert Race St to One-Way Westbound
 Create All-Way Stop - Carlisle St @ McGuire St

Phase 2 - Summer 2018

Intersection Improvements - Race St @ McGuire St
 Sidewalk Construction Within Island Area
 Landscaping Boulevard Area in Front of #7 Race St