ENGINEERING STANDARDS 
ON-STREET PARKING EXEMPTION

Introduction:

The City of Cambridge adopted the Engineering Standards and Development Manual in 2007 which includes standards for minimum road widths required to support parking. The standards account for both traffic operations and emergency clearance.

The standard was created to guide new development not address the complexities of preexisting conditions and the absence of on-street parking causes significant inconvenience in some neighbourhoods. The Engineering Standards On-Street Parking Exemption maintains parking on one side of the street on existing roadways as narrow as 6 metres wide, as identified by the City’s Transportation Section, where traffic operations and emergency access will not be compromised. The exemption does reduce available on-street emergency clearance.

Standards:

1. On-street Parking will be prohibited on both sides of a road with a pavement width less than a width of 8.0 metres;
2. On-street Parking will be prohibited on one side on road with a pavement width of 8.0 metres to 10.0 metres;
3. On-street Parking will be permitted on both sides of roads with a pavement width of 10.0 metres or greater.

Exemption:

1. On-street Parking will be prohibited on both sides of a road with a pavement width less than a width of 6.0 metres;
2. On-street Parking will be prohibited on one side on road with a pavement width of 6.0 metres to 10.0 metres;
3. On-street Parking will be permitted on both sides of roads with a pavement width of 10.0 metres or greater.

Eligibility Criteria:

One-Way Roads

- all one-way roads wider than 6m

Two-Way Roads

- low volume local roads (MTO Road Class 5 or 6)
- Transit routes not eligible
- Routes to vulnerable occupancies not eligible
In the event that future concerns (i.e. access, safety, snow clearing) were raised a reevaluation of the exempted street would be conducted and full parking restrictions could be implemented in accordance with the standard.

Roads less than 6 metres wide would not be eligible as parking on a road less than 6 metres wide can cause full obstruction of the roadway.