

# City of Belleville

Report No: MBECS-2025-34

Meeting Date: November 24, 2025



**To:** Mayor and Members of Council  
**Department:** Corporate Services  
**Staff Contact:** Aggie Hill, Manager, By-Law Enforcement

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**Subject: Parks By-law - Set Fines**

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## Recommendation:

That, pursuant to the Manager of By-law Enforcement's Report No. MBECS-2025-34, Parks By-law - Set Fines, Council approve the proposed set fines under the Provincial Offences Act for the Parks By-law.

And that the appropriate documentation be submitted to the Ministry of the Attorney General for approval.

## Strategic Plan Alignment:

Community Health, Safety and Security

## Background:

Following the adoption of the Parks By-law in 2022, set fines under the Provincial Offences Act are proposed to ensure enforceability and provide clear financial penalties for violations under the by-law. Short form wordings for various offences have been included, with a monetary fine that staff believe is costly enough to be considered a deterrent but is not high enough to be considered punitive.

## Financial/Analysis:

The proposed set fines schedule is attached. The proposed fine schedule is designed to further support the costs of enforcement without significant impacts on current budget allocations. Revenue generated from fines will contribute to covering expenses and enhancing community educational initiatives. Provisions are in place to ensure fines are proportionate to the offence and in line with existing regional standards.

Set fines are not deployed as a mechanism for revenue generation. Instead, they serve as a critical tool to maintain compliance and uphold community standards when other measures are ineffective. Ultimately, preference will be given to friendly resolution with charges and fines reserved for multiple repeat violations.

Given that no set-fines have been issued in 5+ years, any revenue impact is negligible, estimated between \$0–\$500 per year

**Conclusion:**

By setting these predefined penalties, the City can ensure consistent enforcement and deter non-compliance. Council approval of the fine schedule will aid in maintaining Belleville’s commitment to safety and mitigating nuisances within the City’s parks.

**Attachments:**

- [Parks - Set Fines](#)
- [BL 2020-028 Regulation of Parks and Public Places](#)

**Reviewed by:**

Brandon Ferguson, Director of Finance/Treasurer  
Doug Irwin, City Clerk  
Marie Doherty, Director, People and Corporate Services  
Matt MacDonald, Chief Administrative Officer

**Status:**

Approved - 13 Nov 2025  
Approved - 13 Nov 2025  
Approved - 14 Nov 2025  
Approved - 19 Nov 2025

**City of Belleville**  
**PART I Provincial Offences Act**  
**By-law Number 2020-28: Parks By-law**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Short Form Wording</b>	<b>Provisions Creating or Defining Offence</b>	<b>Set Fine</b>
1	Enter into restricted area.	Section 2.1.	\$250
2	Cause or permit riotous, boisterous, violent, threatening or illegal conduct.	Section 2.2.i.	\$350
3	Cast or throw anything with intent to endanger, injure or damage person or property.	Section 2.2.ii.	\$350
4	Urinate or defecate in park or public space.	Section 2.2.iii.	\$350
5	Use photographic device in any washroom or change room.	Section 2.2.iv.	\$350
6	Possess or use firearm or weapon.	Section 2.3.	\$500
7	Climb tree, building, structure or equipment.	Section 2.5.i.	\$350
8	Break, injure, deface or remove vegetation.	Section 2.5.ii.	\$350
9	Break, injure, deface or vandalize municipal property.	Section 2.5.iii.	\$350
10	Remove rock, soil, sand or wood from public place.	Section 2.5.iv.	\$350
11	Disturb ground under repair, prepared for planting, or newly seeded.	Section 2.5.v.	\$350
12	Drive, park, or walk in a prohibited area.	Section 2.5.vi.	\$250
13	Dispose or dump garbage, household waste or other refuse.	Section 2.6.i.	\$300
14	Dispose or dump garden refuse in non-designated area.	Section 2.6.ii.	\$350
15	Dump or deposit snow, fill, soil, building or construction materials.	Section 2.6.iii.	\$350
16	Dump or drain onto soils or waters.	Section 2.6.iv.	\$350
17	Kill, attempt to kill, maim, injure, trap or disturb any animal.	Section 2.7.i.	\$400
18	Touch, injure or remove any nest or egg.	Section 2.7.ii.	\$350
19	Allow pet to kill or injure any animal.	Section 2.7.iii.	\$400
20	Feed birds or waterfowl.	Section 2.8.	\$250
21	Encroach or take possession of park or public place.	Section 2.9.	\$350
22	Light, build, or stoke an open fire or	Section 2.12.i.	\$350

	bonfire.		
23	Use charcoal or solid fuel portable barbecue.	Section 2.12.ii.	\$350
24	Hold picnic, gathering or event for more than 25 people without permit.	Section 2.13.i.	\$350
25	Interfere with picnic, gathering or event authorized by permit.	Section 2.13.ii.	\$350
26	Camp or stay overnight in park or public place.	Section 2.15.ii.	\$350
27	Swim or bathe in any fountain, pond, lake, or stream.	Section 2.16.	\$350
28	Interfere with an authorized organized sport.	Section 2.18.i.	\$350
29	Fish in a prohibited area.	Section 2.19.	\$350
30	Play golf or strike golf ball.	Section 2.20.	\$350
31	Roller skate, skateboard, roller blade or use a scooter in a prohibited area.	Section 2.25.	\$250
32	Enter, walk or play upon designated area for tennis in any park or public place contrary to the posted rules and regulations.	Section 2.26.	\$250
33	Wash, clean or service a motor vehicle in a park or public place.	Section 2.27.i.	\$250
34	Pick, collect or gather worms for commercial gain in a park or public place.	Section 2.27.ii.	\$250
35	Cause a nuisance in a park or public place.	Section 2.27.iii.	\$350
36	Loiter in a park or public place.	Section 2.27.iv.	\$250
37	Practice, conduct, or solicit for any trade, occupation, religion, business or profession.	Section 2.31.b.	\$350
38	Distribute, discard, or display handbill, notice, or other circular, bill or advertisement.	Section 2.32.i.	\$350

NOTE: The penalty provision for the offences above is Section 3.1.a. of By-law 2020-28, a certified copy of which has been filed.

# THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE

## BY-LAW NUMBER 2020-28

### BEING A BY-LAW FOR THE USE, REGULATION AND GOVERNMENT OF PARKS AND PUBLIC PLACES UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE

**WHEREAS** Section 10(2) paragraph 6, of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, permits a municipal council to pass by-laws and to make regulations for the health, safety and well-being of persons;

**AND WHEREAS** Section 11(3) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended, provides that the council of a local municipality may pass by-laws respecting matters within the sphere of jurisdiction of culture, parks, recreation and heritage; and

**AND WHEREAS** Section 35 of the *Liquor Licence Act R.S.O. 1990, c. L-19* as amended, provides that the council of a municipality may by by-law designate recreational areas within the municipality owned or controlled by the municipality as places where possession of liquor is prohibited.

**AND WHEREAS** it is desirable to regulate, protect and govern the use of parks and public spaces in the City of Belleville; and

**AND WHEREAS** all public properties are for the use, benefit and pleasure of the public and it is necessary to prevent any person from improperly interfering with such use, benefit and pleasure.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Council for the Corporation of the City of Belleville hereby enacts as follows:

#### Article 1 – Definitions

- 1.1 “**By-law Enforcement Officer**” means any Police Officer, Provincial Offences Officer, Municipal Bylaw Enforcement Officer, or any Employee of the municipality appointed by Municipality to enforce its By-Laws;
- 1.2 “**Bicycle**” includes a tricycle, a unicycle and a power-assisted bicycle but does not include a motor assisted bicycle;
- 1.3 “**Control**” means ownership or possession;
- 1.4 “**Council**” means the Council of The Corporation of the City of Belleville;
- 1.5 “**Designated Area**” means an area within a park designed on constructed for a specific use or purpose, which may include posted conditions;

- 1.6 “**Director**”, or there designate, means the individual appointed by Council as Director to supervise and administer this bylaw;
- 1.7 “**Exotic animal**” means an animal not indigenous to Canada and also includes all domestic wild animals;
- 1.8 “**Firearm**” means any barreled weapon from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged and that is capable of causing serious bodily injury or death to a person , and includes any frame or receiver of such a barreled weapon and anything that can be adapted for use as a firearm.
- 1.9 “**Liquor Licence**” (liquor) means a licence pursuant to the *Liquor Licence Act, R.S.O 1990, Chapter L. 19* and the regulations thereunder;
- 1.10 “**Liquor**” means spirits, wine and beer or any combination thereof and includes any alcohol in a form appropriate for human consumption as a beverage, alone or in combination with any other matter;
- 1.11 “**Loiter**” means being in a park or public place and obstructing, harassing or intimidating or disturbing the peace of other persons so as to inhibit their enjoyment;
- 1.12 “**Motor vehicle**” means a motor vehicle within the meaning of the *Highway Traffic Act, R.S.O. 1990, C.H.8*, as may be amended from time to time;
- 1.13 “**Municipality**” means the Corporation of the City of Belleville;
- 1.14 “**Nuisance**” means unreasonably interfering with any person's use or enjoyment of a park or public place;
- 1.15 “**Organized sport or activity**” means a sport, game or activity pre-planned by a group or organization whether or not formally constituted and whether or not the players or members wear uniforms;
- 1.16 “**Park**” means any area owned, leased or used by the City that is devoted to active or passive recreation and includes a playground, playing field, ball diamond, sports field, beach including but not limited to the area of the water under the control or supervision of the City, recreation centre, community building, facility, square, garden, water, pedestrian walkway or any other area and includes any lane or walkway or public parking area leading thereto;
- 1.17 “**Permit**” means any written authorization or permission from Council, or the Director where such authority has been delegated;
- 1.18 “**Public place**” means any municipally owned or leased building or lands to which the public is ordinarily invited or permitted access in the City of Belleville but does not in any case include a highway;

- 1.19 **“Service Animal”** means an animal for a person with a disability if, (a) the animal can be readily identified as one that is being used by the person for reasons relating to the person’s disability, as a result of visual indicators such as the vest or harness worn by the animal; or (b) the person provides documentation from a health professional listed in section 80.45(4)(b) of *Integrated Accessibility Standards, O Reg 191/11* confirming that the person requires the animal for reasons relating to the disability;
- 1.20 **“Vehicle”** includes a motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor, road-building machine, bicycle and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of power, including muscular power, but does not include a motorized snow vehicle or a street car;
- 1.21 **“Weapon”** means anything used, designed to be used or intended for use in causing death or injury to any person, or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person.

## Article 2 – Prohibitions

### 2.1 Restricted Areas

While in any park or public place, no person shall enter into areas posted to prohibit or restrict admission of the public.

### 2.2 Conduct

While in any park or public place, no person shall:

- i. cause or permit any riotous, boisterous, violent, threatening, or illegal conduct or use profane or abusive;
- ii. cast or throw anything with the intent to endanger or cause injury or damage to any person or property;
- iii. urinate or defecate in any park or public place except in a washroom or temporary portable washroom; or
- iv. Use photographic devices in any washroom and/or change room, such as cellular devices and cameras and other visual recording Devices.

### 2.3 Firearms and Offensive Weapons

Unless authorized by permit, while in any park or public place, no person shall be in possession of or use any firearm or weapon of any kind.

## 2.4 Fireworks

While in any park or public place, no person shall ignite, discharge or set off any firecrackers, rockets or other fireworks, unless authorized by a permit issued by the City.

## 2.5 Injury and Damage

No person shall in any park or public place:

- i. climb any tree, building, structure or equipment, unless it is equipment designed for climbing and is intended for use as recreational climbing equipment;
- ii. break, injure, deface or remove the whole or any part of any flowers, bushes trees or other vegetation;
- iii. break, injure, deface or vandalize any building, structure, equipment or other property of the municipality;
- iv. unless authorized by permit, climb on or remove the whole or any part of rocks, boulders, rock faces or remove any soil, sand or wood from the park or public place;
- v. in any manner, disturb ground which is under repair, prepared for planting, has been newly seeded or sodded or is in an area posted to that effect; or
- vi. drive, park or walk in an area posted to prohibit driving, parking or walking.

## 2.6 Waste and Pollution

No person shall in any park or public place:

- i. dispose or dump garbage, household or commercial waste, litter, tree trimmings, or any other refuse, except that which is generated through the normal use of the park or public space and shall only deposit same in receptacles provided for such purpose;
- ii. dispose of or dump garden refuse except in a designated area therefore;
- iii. unless authorized by permit, dump or deposit snow, fill, soil, building or construction materials; or

- iv. dump or drain onto any soils or into the waters of any pool, pond, lake, stream, fountain or watercourse of any kind of material, toxic or otherwise.

## 2.7 Protection of Wildlife

While in any park, no person shall:

- i. subject to the provisions of section 2.19, kill, attempt to kill, maim, injure, trap or disturb any animal, bird, waterfowl, fish, or other wildlife;
- ii. touch, injure or remove any nest or egg, except when a permit has been provided; or
- iii. allow a pet to kill, attempt to kill, maim, injure or disturb any animal, bird, waterfowl, fish, or other wildlife.

## 2.8 Feeding birds and water fowl

While in any park or public place, no person shall feed any birds or waterfowl.

## 2.9 Encroachment

No person shall encroach upon or take possession of any park or public place by any means whatsoever, including the construction, installation or maintenance of any fence or structure, the dumping or storage of any materials or plantings, or planting, cultivating, grooming or landscaping, thereon unless authorized by Council.

## 2.10 Liquor

While in any park or public place, no person shall consume, serve or sell alcoholic beverages unless in accordance with a valid licence issued by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, and approved by Council.

## 2.11 Drugs

- i. While in any park or public place, no person shall consume or have on their person a drug as listed in schedules I, II, III, IV and V of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* SC 1996, c 19, unless permitted by the Regulations thereunder.
- ii. While in any park or public place, no person shall smoke or hold lighted tobacco or cannabis or use an electronic cigarette, unless permitted by the provisions of the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act, 2017*, SO 2017, c 26, Sch 3 and the Regulations thereunder.

## 2.12 Campfires and Barbecues

While in any park or public place, no person shall:

- i. light, build or stoke an open fire or bonfire;
- ii. unless authorized by permit, use charcoal or solid fuel portable barbecues.

## 2.13 Organized Gatherings and Picnics

While in any park or public place, no person shall:

- i. unless authorized by permit, hold a picnic, gathering or event where more than twenty-five (25) persons are present; or
- ii. interfere with a picnic, gathering or event authorized by permit.

## 2.14 Amplifiers and Loud Speakers

Except in accordance with the municipality's noise by-law and unless authorized by permit, no person or group shall operate loudspeakers or amplifying equipment in any park or public place.

## 2.15 Tents or Structures

- i. Unless authorized by permit, no person shall place, install or erect any temporary or permanent tent or structure in any park or public place; or
- ii. Unless authorized by permit, no person shall camp or stay overnight in any park or public place

## 2.16 Bathing and Swimming

No person shall in any park or public place swim or bathe in any fountain, pond, lake or stream, except in a designated posted area.

## 2.17 Use of Wash and Change Rooms

No person shall enter any portion of any washroom, bathhouse, or change room that is set apart for the opposite gender in any park or public place that does not correspond to their lived gender identity. This shall not apply to children who are six (6) years of age or younger and who are, at the time accompanied by a parent, guardian, caregiver or caretaker.

## 2.18 Organized Sports or Activities

- i. While in any park or public place, no person or group shall interfere with an organized sport or activity authorized by permit.
- ii. In addition to the prohibition set out in subsection (a), while in any park or public place, no person or group shall utilize a designated area without a permit where same is posted to prohibit or restrict such use.

## 2.19 Fishing

While in a park or public place, no person may fish in an area designated or posted to prohibit the activity. Nothing in this by-law contravenes any Treaty rights.

## 2.20 Golfing

While in any park or public place, no person shall play or practice golf or strike a golf ball.

## 2.21 Model Aircraft, Drone, Rockets and Kites

- i. Unless authorized by permit, while in any park or public place, no person shall operate any powered models of aircraft, drone, rockets, watercraft or vehicles.
- ii. The flying of kites is prohibited in parks and public places within the vicinity of overhead power lines.

## 2.22 Gliders, Helicopters and Hot Air Balloons

Unless authorized by *Canadian Aviation Regulations* and by permit, no person shall tether, launch or land any hot air balloon, helicopter, hang glider, ultralight aircraft, parachutes or similar conveyance in any park or public place.

## 2.23 Ice Skating

- i. Ice skating is not permitted in parks or public places unless posted to permit the activity;
- ii. No person shall skate in such a manner as to interfere with or endanger any other person using the surface;
- iii. No person shall skate in any area when posted "closed"; or
- iv. No person shall skate on any storm water management collection pond.

#### 2.24 Skiing, Tobogganing and Sledding

No person shall toboggan, snowboard, skiboard or sled in any park or public place unless posted to permit the activity.

#### 2.25 Roller Skates and Skate Boards

While in a park or public place, no person shall:

- i. Roller skate, skateboard, roller blade or use a scooter in any area posted to prohibit the activity; or
- ii. Obstruct, inconvenience or endanger other users of the park or public place while operating or utilizing traditional or in-line roller skates, skateboards, scooters or like conveyances.

#### 2.26 Tennis

No person shall enter, walk, or play upon a designated area for tennis in any park or public place, except in accordance with the posted rules and regulations.

#### 2.27 Other Activities

No person shall while in a park or public place:

- i. wash, clean or service, a motor vehicle except in the event of an emergency;
- ii. pick, collect or gather worms for commercial gain;
- iii. cause a nuisance in a park or public place within the City of Belleville, or
- iv. loiter in a park or public place.

#### 2.28 Bicycles

While in any park or public place, no person shall obstruct, inconvenience or endanger other users of the park while riding or operating a bicycle.

#### 2.29 Speed

While in a park or public place no person shall operate:

- i. any vehicle on a roadway at a speed in excess of the posted limit; or

- ii. a bicycle at a speed in excess of 20 kilometers per hour, unless it is on a public roadway.

### 2.30 Exotic Animals

Unless authorized by permit, no person having control or possession of an exotic animal shall bring into or permit such animal to enter a park or public place unless the animal is a trained service animal.

### 2.31 Sale of Merchandise, Trade or Business

- i. Unless authorized by permit for a special event which does not include a licence issued under the City's Licencing By-law No. **2006-140**, no person shall, while in a park or public place, sell or offer or display for sale:
  - ii. any food, drink or refreshment; or
  - iii. any goods, wares, merchandise or articles including promotional materials, souvenirs and novelties; or
  - iv. any art, skill, service or work.
- b. While in a park or public place, no person shall practice, carry on, conduct or solicit for any trade, occupation, religion, business or profession.

### 2.32 Circular and Advertisements

Unless authorized by permit, no person shall:

- i. while in any park or public place distribute, discard, or display and handbill, notice, or other circular, bill or advertisement; or
- ii. post, nail, attach, stencil or otherwise fasten or erect any poster, sign, notice, placard or other circular, bill, advertisement or paper in a park or public place, including trees; or
- iii. post, affix or attach any handbills, notices or other circular on any vehicle in a park or public place.

### 2.33 Permits and Licenses

- c. Permits issued for activities contemplated in this by-law may be subject to such fees as Council shall from time to time establish.
- d. Permits issued for activities contemplated in this by-law may include conditions as to time, location, area, equipment, number of participants, type of activities, release, indemnity, letter of credit and insurance coverage.

- e. The issuance of a permit pursuant to this by-law shall not relieve any person from the necessity of acquiring any other license or permit required for such activity by any governmental or public authority.
- f. No permit shall be issued if the activity for which the permit is requested would contravene any legislation.
- g. A permit shall be obtained to install a gate on a fence line abutting the City owned property.

#### 2.34 Posting of Signage

The Director is authorized to post signage of permission, regulation, restriction, warning or prohibition with respect to uses of or activities in any park in accordance with the provisions hereof.

#### 2.35 Closure of Parks

- a. The Director is authorized to close off for such period or periods as the Director deems appropriate any park or parts thereof to relieve or prevent overcrowding or traffic congestion, or in the interests of public safety, or as may otherwise be authorized by Council.
- b. Unless authorized by permit, all parks shall close at 11:00 p.m. and remain closed until 6:00 a.m.

#### 2.36 Exclusions and Exemptions

- c. This by-law shall not apply to:
  - i. Drivers or operators of ambulances, police or fire department vehicles, while engaged in the performance of their duties; or
  - ii. employees or agents of the municipality while engaged in works or services undertaken for or on behalf of the municipality; or
- d. a park or public place that is owned or under the jurisdiction of a board established by the Council or by statute, the members of which are appointed by Council.

## Article 3 – Enforcement

### 3.1 Penalties

- a. Any person who contravenes any provision of this By-law is deemed to be guilty of an offence and, upon conviction, is subject to a fine of:
  - i. Not more than \$5,000 for a first offence; and
  - ii. Not more than \$25,000 for any subsequent offence.
- b. A subsequent offence means any conviction for an offence under this bylaw after a person's first conviction.
- c. Any By-law Enforcement Officer or employee of the municipality is authorized to inform any person of the provisions of this by-law and to request compliance therewith.
- d. In addition to any other authority they may have, any By-law Enforcement Officer may issue an order to any persons believed by such officer to be contravening or to have contravened any provision of this By-law;
  - i. to desist from the activity constituting such contravention;
  - ii. to remove from the park any animal or thing owned by or in the control of such person which the By-law Enforcement Officer or employee believes is or was involved in such contravention; or
  - iii. to leave the park immediately.
- e. Any person who fails to comply with an order issued under section 3.1 is guilty of an offence.
- f. The Director may immediately revoke a permit issued pursuant to this by-law where the person to whom the permit was issued causes or permits any contravention of any provision of this by-law.
- g. A By-law Enforcement Officer upon discovery of any vehicle parked or standing in contravention of this by-law may cause it to be moved or taken to and placed or stored in a suitable place and all costs and charges for removing, care and storage thereof, if any are a lien upon the vehicle which may be enforced in the manner provided by the Repair and Storage Liens Act. R.S.O. 1990, c.R.25, as may be amended from time to time, or any successor acts thereto.

### 3.2 Severability

If a court of competent jurisdiction should declare any section or part of a section of this by-law to be invalid, such section or part of section shall not be construed as having persuaded or influenced Council to pass the remainder of the by-law and it is hereby declared that the remainder of the by-law shall be valid and shall remain in full force and effect.

### 3.3 Short Title

The short title of this by-law shall be the "Parks By Law"

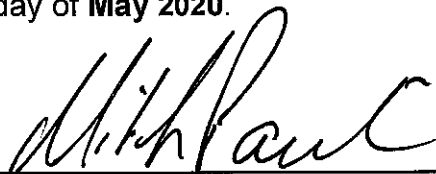
**AND THAT** By-Law Number 9567 as well as all other By-Laws or parts thereof inconsistent herewith be and the same are hereby rescinded.


**THIS BY-LAW SHALL COME INTO FORCE AND TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY ON AND AFTER THE PASSING THEREOF.**

Read a first time this 27<sup>th</sup> day of **January 2020**.

Read a second time 11<sup>th</sup> day of **May 2020**.

Read a third time and finally passed 11<sup>th</sup> day of **May 2020**.

  
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MITCH PANCIUK                      MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MATT MACDONALD                      CITY CLERK