



# . . . Memo

**To: City Council**

**From: Councillor Lisa Kearns**  
**Seconded: Councillor Paul Sharman**

**Cc: Vito Tolone, Joan Ford**

**Date: November 23, 2020**

**Re: Parking Fees Waived for 90min in Downtown Burlington**

---

Dear colleagues,

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario declared an emergency pursuant to Order in Council 518/2020 (Ontario Regulation 50/20) on March 17, 2020 pursuant to section 7.0.1 of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (the "Act");

AND WHEREAS the effects of Covid-19 have been demonstrably significant to small local businesses and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce's report, 'Obstacles and Opportunities: The Importance of Small Business in Ontario', further highlights the contributions of small businesses to the provincial economy, while also recognizing, and offering solutions to, the most pressing challenges that small business owners face;

AND WHEREAS the Burlington Downtown Business Association (BDDBA) represents ~440 Member Businesses in a concentrated geographic area that are experiencing a dynamic shift in customer and employee behaviours and parking needs;

AND WHEREAS the Burlington Downtown Business Association is designated as Local Board by the Municipality with a mandate to beautify the public-owned lands within the defined Business Improvement Area and to promote this Area as a shopping, dining and entertainment district;

AND WHEREAS the Burlington Downtown Business Association is a chartered member of the Downtown Parking Advisory Committee to Council and whose property owner membership is contributes \$300,000 per annum as a Defined Parking Area levy;

AND WHEREAS at the Burlington Downtown Business Association Board of Directors' meeting of Wednesday November 4, 2020 the following motion was passed: "Direct Burlington Downtown Business Association's representative(s) on the Downtown Parking Advisory Committee to table the following: to waive parking fees for the first ninety minutes for all public on-street and off-street parking assets Downtown as a temporary emergency recovery measure. That the cost for the offset of these fees be expensed to the City's Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund or Parking Reserve Fund. Further, that this operational change be implemented as soon as possible";

AND WHEREAS the Downtown Parking Committee (DPC), an advisory committee to Council established in November 2002 to provide comments and advice to Council on strategies and policies that affect the development and delivery of parking services in Downtown Burlington, at its meeting of November 5, 2020 heard the Burlington Downtown Business Association's specific recommendations regarding the waiver of charges for up to 90 minutes of parking and regarding the potential use of the Parking District Reserve Fund to offset the impact of the associated loss of revenue;

AND WHEREAS the Downtown Parking Committee endorsed both of the Downtown Business Association's recommendations by resolutions of the majority at the same November 5, 2020 meeting;

AND WHEREAS the City of Burlington owns and operates the parking facilities of both on and off-street parking for this delineated area consisting of approximately 1598 individual spots;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT Burlington Council:

- a) Amend Parking Bylaw 39-2016 to accommodate for 90 minutes of waived parking fees within the Burlington Downtown Business Area boundary;
- b) Direct City Staff to review the potential use of the Parking District Reserve Fund to offset the impact of the associated loss of revenue;

AND THAT the amendment take effect as soon as operationally possible with the understanding that the BDBA and DPC will continue to monitor and review the changing needs of small local business during the declared emergency.

Respectfully,

Councillor Lisa Kearns