



## BURLINGTON DOWNTOWN

Attn: Kevin Arjoon, Burlington City Clerk

Friday November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Re: Parking Fees Waived for 90min in Downtown Burlington – Municipal Officer's Report ADM-12-20

Please accept this letter of support for the aforementioned Municipal Officers support tabled at the City Council meeting of Monday November 23, 2020 from the Burlington Downtown Business Association (BDBA).

The Burlington Downtown Business Association is representative of more than 400 small business owners and operators in our City and contributes in excess of \$300,000 annually to the Defined Parking Area Fund.

The Board has learned that its member businesses are re-inventing their models for delivering goods and services to their patrons in light of the COVID 19 pandemic. Businesses are experiencing a dynamic shift in customer and employee behaviours and parking needs. Many have reached out to the BDBA Board, as the spokespeople for the small business community Downtown, to encourage changes to downtown parking operations that reflect the new realities of commerce during the pandemic.

Recent discussions with the membership resulted in the following motion, passed unanimously by the BDBA Board on Wednesday November 4, 2020:

“Direct Burlington Downtown Business Association’s representative 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”

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This motion was successfully passed at the Downtown Parking Committee of November 5, 2020.

Burlington's small business community continues to suffer the catastrophic effects of the COVID 19 pandemic daily. We are encouraged by the success of the several municipal initiatives that have been enacted since March 2020 that resulted in changes to Downtown parking operations in step with the provincial re-opening of the economy.

Our fervent belief is that the waiving of fees for ninety minutes Downtown, as an emergency measure, will inspire consumer confidence in our business community and help to mitigate the loss of revenues expected this year and into 2021.

**DocuSigned by:**  
Respectfully submitted,

*Mark Eade*

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Mark Eade, Chair- Board of Directors

Burlington Downtown Business Association

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