

TS-04-16  
File no. 745  
CCS July 11 2016

**From:** Mike and Erin Hartman  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 06, 2016 10:25 PM  
**To:** LIST - Users - Internet Email Address - Clerks  
**Cc:** Dennison, Jack  
**Subject:** FW: NOSPP and Pay Parking Permit Program

Dear City Clerks,

Attached are our concerns regarding the NOSPP and Pay Parking Permit Programs that are being discussed by council on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately, due to prior commitments, I am unable to attend in person to express my concerns. I have spoken with my councillor, Jack Dennison, and am providing this feedback to you to ensure all of council receives this prior to the July 11<sup>th</sup> session.

In addition to the information shared below, I also want council to consider the following questions:

- 1) When the requested permits exceed available space on city streets, how will you determine priority of the needs? Is it simply going to be first come first served?
- 2) As a single family home-owner that doesn't want long term permit holders parking vehicles in front of my home on a daily basis, are you going to allow the home owners the right to refuse use of the space for use in pay parking in front of their homes? Seem only fair that individual home owners get their own say in the matter since others are being allowed to push their need for space on their neighbours.
- 3) How is this going to impact emergency response vehicles navigating these congested laneways?
- 4) What is the increased risk to children due to the decreased sight lines resulting from these vehicles being in place?
- 5) How will you evaluate any increased risks that this program will have the potential to create (i.e. injury rates of children, vehicular collisions rates, etc.)?
- 6) Why bother having a planning department if you concede long term sustainability and strategic priorities to residents utilizing single family homes for multi-generational living?

Can you please ensure that all council members receive this? Please confirm

Thank-you,  
Michael and Erin Hartman

**From:** ERIN HARTMAN [**Sent:** July 5, 2016 11:29 AM  
**To:** [jack.dennison@burlington.ca](mailto:jack.dennison@burlington.ca)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** NOSPP and Pay Parking Permit Program

Hi Jack,

Per my voicemail earlier today, I have some concerns regarding the recommendations going forward for the above noted programs.

While there are numerous arguments to be made for and against this, I wanted to raise two high level points that need to be considered before adopting these changes.

First, The City of Burlington's strategic plan is based on four main pillars: A City that Grows ; A City that Moves ; A Healthy and Greener City ; An Engaging City  
Moving toward a Pay Permit program appears to take away from "A Healthy and Greener City" as it makes it easier for families to support multiple vehicles per household. By having less available parking, residents will need to consider alternatives such as car pooling, cycling and public transportation. All of these better support the strategic pillar. Also, by creating a constraint against multiple vehicles you create an unmet demand that is very likely to be better addressed by private business which in turn supports "A City that Grows". Revenue generating programs within government do not optimize economic growth from my perspective.

Second, the cost of this program is a deal for many residents. For example, a small storage unit monthly rental typically costs ~\$80 per month. When you consider that the pay permit program will only cost \$30 per month, if I was a resident that needed space, I would likely use my garage as storage and pay the \$30 fee to gain a permit vs. seeking private business to address my storage concerns.

On a philosophical level, I am concerned that the changing nature of families (i.e. more generations in a household) is being used as rationale to sub-optimize community planning. I understand the issues around this well as I recently had to accommodate a family member at our home due to illness. I certainly understand the pressures this puts on a family but I certainly don't expect the neighbourhood to have to deal with the spill over effects on a permanent basis.

We bought a single family home and as such need to respect the constraints that come with it. If the household no longer supports our needs, we would expect to have to find alternate living arrangements. I expect that all community members should expect the same.

I believe that this permit program (if it goes ahead) should be considered a last resort option for accommodation and as such recommend the following changes (referring to city letter dated June 23, 2016 on this issue):

- 1) Increase the permit cost to \$1000 per year - this is in-line with other storage options in the community offered by private business.
- 2) Do not provide free permits to any household
- 3) Make parking permit available only for limit time-period (i.e. annual review and no longer than 3yr accommodation)

I am happy to discuss further but have to say that I am very concerned about the permit program. While I have provided changes to the existing proposal, my ideal situation would be to maintain only the current 15-day parking exemption program and have no pay permit options adopted.

Thank-you for you consideration,  
Michael Hartman