

May 26, 2020

Deirdre Beckerman and Howard Rudolph

Richmond Hill, ON

City of Richmond Hill  
225 East Beaver Creek Road,  
Ground Floor, Richmond Hill, ON  
L4B 3P4

**RE: 12.4 SRCS.20.13 - Lake Wilcox Park Pay Parking**

Dear Richmond Hill Council Members,

With regards to the above noted matter, please consider my feedback below as it relates to Lake Wilcox Park Pay Parking.

While we fully support instituting paid parking in an attempt to mitigate the chaos in Lake Wilcox Park and the surrounding streets, we don't think it makes any sense to have two hourly rates and we propose the rate of \$5.00/hour be instituted regardless of whether one parks in the Splash Pad Lot or the Unpaved Lot. Different hourly rates add to confusion and once revenue has been accrued, the unpaid lot can be paved.

Furthermore, we are also in favour of all users paying for parking, regardless of whether the vehicle belongs to a resident who resides in Richmond Hill or not for the following reasons:

- Issuing a permit to Richmond Hill residents encourages fraudulent usage whereby a resident can invite a friend or family member from outside of the region and provide them with the permit to avoid the parking fee.
- Residents will quite possibly forget to bring their permit
- Free parking for Richmond Hill residents encourages longer park visits
- Residents who live within walking distance have paid a premium for this, while other Richmond Hill residents can pay, same as non residents

It is no different than in the City of Toronto, for example, where those residents engaging in activities on city owned properties often must pay for parking.

As it relates to Permit Parking and erecting signs on surrounding streets that outline the parking requirements, we have an issue with the proposal allowing 3 hour parking and a fee beyond this time-frame. If we, home-owners on a nearby street, are hosting a party and our guests stay beyond the allotted time, we are being penalized by having to pay for parking on our guest's behalf. You're suggesting a Richmond Hill resident can park for free at Lake Wilcox Park, stay all day and I, a resident who has paid a premium to live near the lake, have to ante up some money because I live on a street that you're trying to "protect" from parking abusers at Lake Wilcox Park. Having to arrange for an extended permit for guests is also, frankly, an annoyance that residents will not want to have to deal with. Please give thought to eliminating the permitted time on weekends and statutory holidays and of course, vehicles parked overnight would be subject to ticketing.

Thank you for considering this and we hope you're in agreement and will amend your proposal to include our input.

Yours truly,

Deirdre Beckerman and Howard Rudolph