

Date: November 5, 2024

To: Chair and Members of Budget Committee

From: Sam Rogers, MBA, Acting Commissioner of
Transportation and Works

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
November 18, 2024

Subject

Employee Parking Program

Recommendation

1. That the Traffic By-law 0555-2000, be amended in accordance with the Budget Committee Report entitled "Employee Parking Program" from the Acting Commissioner of Transportation and Works dated November 5, 2024, to waive parking fees for staff and members of Council at the Civic Centre Parking Garage, Central Library Parking Garage, and Living Arts Parking Garage during regular work hours for the period of one year beginning January 1, 2025.
2. That if Council provides direction to proceed with Recommendation #1, as outlined above, that Council approves a \$266,000 reduction to the 2025 budgeted parking fee revenue with \$133,000 of the impact to be offset against the Parking Meter Revenues Reserve #35519 and the remaining \$133,000 to property tax.
3. That all necessary by-laws be enacted.

Background

The Municipal Parking program in the Downtown includes 1,387 off-street parking spaces in the Civic Centre, Central Library, and Living Arts Centre Parking Garages and the Sheridan North and South parking lots; and approximately 450 on-street parking spaces located throughout the Downtown area. Paid parking in the Downtown includes hourly on-street and off-street parking, off-street parking permits and multi-visit passes, and the Employee Parking Program.

The Employee Parking Program was implemented in 2009 as an action of The Parking Strategy for the Mississauga City Centre and was intended to facilitate the transition of the Downtown from a suburban, automobile-oriented environment to a walkable and transit-oriented urban Centre by decreasing single occupant vehicle travel. However, the post-COVID recovery period has dictated that non-traditional methods be explored to encourage the use of parking in a

different manner and how parking can be used as a tool to enhance the new staff hybrid work model.

Comments

Transportation and Works staff are currently in the process of reviewing the potential to convert the parking program in the Downtown to allow for 24-hour parking. This would include introducing evening and overnight parking in the City's garages, parking lots, and on-street. This additional parking capacity will help to address parking demand from existing condominium developments in the Downtown that have received parking zoning requirement reductions, future condominium developments that will be exempt from parking requirements due to Bill 185. This would also provide additional parking options for residents of the M City development that is currently under construction.

In advance of implementing 24-hour parking in the Downtown, there is an opportunity to revise the Employee Parking Program to temporarily provide staff with access to the Downtown parking garages at no cost during regular working hours for the period of one year beginning January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. This will assist in the initial transition to the new hybrid work model, encourage staff to use the City's parking garages to park rather than high demand on-street parking spaces and the Square One parking lot, and allow Transportation and Works staff to develop a new Employee Parking Program that will align with the City's future Downtown parking plan. An updated Downtown parking plan will be presented to Council in 2025.

Financial Impact

The Employee Parking Program is currently comprised of monthly parking permits, payroll deduction parking permits, and parking multi-visit passes. The 2025 Operating Budget impact to accommodate waiving parking fees for staff and members of Council for the period of one year beginning January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, is a reduction of \$266,000 parking fees revenue budget in CC #24000 (accounts #525338 & #525340). Half of this revenue reduction, or \$133,000, will be offset against the Parking Meter Revenues Reserve #35519 and the other remaining \$133,000 will be to property tax.

Conclusion

Waiving parking fees for staff and members of Council for a period of one year beginning January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025, at the Civic Centre, Central Library, and Living Arts Centre Garages will be a useful tool to assist in the transition to the hybrid workplace and will encourage staff to use the City's parking garages rather than high demand on-street parking in the Downtown.



Sam Rogers, MBA, Acting Commissioner of Transportation and Works

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