

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Outdoor dining program

From: Pat Cameron

Sent: Sunday, February 20, 2022 6:18 PM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Outdoor dining program

Dear Councillors

I write with respect to the Planning Committee endorsement of a staff report / recommendation to make the temporary temporary outdoor dining program permanent.

in an effort to ensure that the outdoor dining program is fully accessible and does not present any barriers to travel and safe travel for persons with disabilities James Kemp and Tim Nolan from the ACPD presented to the Planning Committee on February 15. They requested that staff and their staff report, both, be referred to the ACPD working group on accessible outdoor spaces and parklands before proceeding to make this program permanent.

The Committee instead voted 6 – 0 to accept the staff report to make the program permanent now ignoring any need for accessibility.

I believe this is a clear mistake on the part of the Planning Committee placing the City at clear risk of non compliance with the AODA, the Ontario Human Rights Code and its own standards for safe and barrier – free pedestrian pathways in the City.

I am not at all opposed to outdoor dining or making this program permanent. I ask only that this program be accessible and ensure accessibility for persons with disabilities in this City. To do so only requires the staff report and staff be referred to the ACPD working group to secure full accessibility with respect to all matters associated with outdoor dining before proceeding at this time.

And, that Council allow the program to proceed as temporarily temporary for now. This matter is important for the City and all its citizens with disabilities. We have a duty to be thoughtful and considerate in this process, and I implore you to do so now.

With appreciation

Patty Cameron
Stoney Creek