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Office of the City Clerk  
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Fax to 905-546-2095

January 12, 2024

Dear Councillors,

My name is a Melissa Stark. I am a lifelong Hamiltonian and I currently live in the Kirkendall neighbourhood. I wish to express my disappointment with the drastic price increase for 2024 on-street parking permit fees.

We have no driveway or onsite parking available and for our two cars, the total fees for the on-street parking permits for the last few years (2022, 2021, 2020) have been \$212, \$212, and \$210, respectively.

The 2024 fee for our two cars is \$355.95. This is nearly a 68% increase in one year, which I find extremely unreasonable. There was no explanation in the letter we received, and even with inflation, this level of increase is completely unacceptable.

I first reached out to the City of Hamilton (Joanne Starr, Acting Manager, Parking Operations) and my ward councillor, Maureen Wilson, and have received the following explanation:

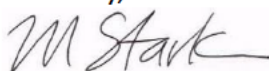
- "In establishing the current pricing, considerations included a comparison to other municipalities as well as the recognition that on-street parking is seen as a valuable resource by most residents"- Joanne Starr
- "I voted in favour of the increase following the comparative analysis and the shift that all cities are making in terms of trying to identify the real value/cost of parking." - Maureen Wilson

While I understand the need to increase costs annually, such a drastic increase in one year is completely outrageous. I would have expected a staggered increase over a couple years or at the very least, a notice to existing permit holders such as myself to let us know that this change was coming.

I am requesting a repeal of the 2024 fees to better align with reasonable increases and a review of the fees for 2025.

Thank you for your consideration of my feedback.

Sincerely,



Melissa Stark

