

From: Rita Bailey

Sent: February 27, 2024 11:58 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: City Council Feb. 28th, 2024: Affordable Housing in Stoney Creek

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I urge you to work together and find a solution to the issue of parking vs. affordable housing in Stoney Creek. While there might be some small truth to the issue that parking spots are needed in downtown Stoney Creek, surely that doesn't mean no to any affordable housing on this site.

I would like to remind councillors that where I live in Hamilton there are no free parking lots except at grocery stores and strip malls. Most of my neighbours do not have driveways. Most side streets have time-limited parking, and we buy an annual permit to exceed those limits. My belief is, if you can afford to buy a car and put gas in it, you can afford to pay 2-4 dollars to park. People who use transit have to pay every time they board a bus, so why should drivers get a free pass?

If you look at thriving shopping districts in other neighbourhoods, such as Locke Street, Westdale, Concession, Dundas, you will see that paid parking does not deter customers. If you have stores that attract customers, they will come regardless of parking. By increasing density in this neighbourhood, you have more people who can walk to the shopping district and fewer parking spots will be needed by customers. Please believe me, the sky will not fall if people have to pay for parking. But our taxes might be a smidgeon lower?

As a resident of the lower city I feel that some suburban councillors act as if the lower city should shoulder all the hard work of increased density. social housing, and taking care of the homeless. It's time for everyone to pay their fair share.

Where were these 8 councillors when a 23 storey condo was approved 2 blocks from my house? It will result in increased traffic on my tiny one-way, one lane street. limited parking street. If I have to accept this, then Stoney Creek can do their part.

Rita Bailey

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