

**ACPD's Built Environment Working Group Meeting
Notes**

August 5th, 2025

Virtual Teams Meeting

4:00PM – 6:00PM

Members in Attendance: James Kemp, Cara Hernould,
Paula Kilburn

Also in Attendance: Julianna Petrovich

Members Absent: Levi Janosi, Hargun Kaur

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approval of August 5th Agenda: Agenda was
approved

3. Approval of July 3rd Meeting Notes: Meeting notes
were approved.

**4. Accessible On-Street Parking Discussion w/
Julianna Petrovich:** Julianna began with a brief
introduction as a Senior Project Manager in Parking
Planning. Julianna came to speak to us on a couple

issues with on street accessible parking that are creating problems.

Firstly, we began with On-Street Permit Parking, where a home owner could apply to the city for a permitted parking space on regularly unpermitted streets. However, they are not accessible spaces, but considered priority parking. Requirement to have a priority parking space installed is an MTO Accessible Parking Permit and it costs roughly \$1000 for each installation of two signs flanking the space. Julianna listed a number of issues with the current program created back in the 80's. Not actually accessible. If someone else has a permit for the street, they can park there too. There is no ability to assign an on-street parking space to an individual. If a space encroaches on a neighbor, you have to approach them for a letter of understanding that they allow you to encroach on their space. There are issues with snow removal pathways. There is consistency issues with people moving away and the parking spaces remain.

Cara explained how she has a permitted space around the corner from her house as there is no parking on her street whatsoever. She knows of four individuals in that area with permitted parking and it is a source of friction with the neighbours.

Cara asked why the spaces couldn't be accessible spaces with proper road markings. Julianna explained that they cannot use parking lot style accessible spaces, but something in between permit and accessible parking. However, if they were to do that, then anyone with an MTO Permanent Accessible Parking Pass would be able to park there, regardless of permitting. There is no way to delineate as an accessible space and provide permit parking. Julianna brought up the issue of cost to the applicant. It is currently paid for by the taxpayers. There was a brief discussion on the difference between equal and equitable with regards to society supporting those less fortunate. Cara suggested that the cost would be more manageable in installments on an annual basis and in the interests of fairness, should be closer in cost to standard permit parking costs of approx. \$150-\$250 annually.

This program is unique to Hamilton and Parking Planning is in the early stages of revamping it for a more modern city. Their primary recommendation is to remove the program entirely (by slowly phasing them out with no new applications), but we are pitching it to be modified instead. Staff wishes to remove the requirement to get neighbour's permission and want authorization to decide sign placement on a case by case basis. Parking Planning would also like

to consult with the public through Engage Hamilton and asked us our thoughts on that. We replied that Engage Hamilton may work for some people, it does not work for all and other means of information gathering may be required.

We will have them attend another round of WG meetings before it is brought to APCD for final approval. We will also discuss at TWG in September despite it being an infrastructure issue at the request of the TWG Chair.

The other on-street parking issues have to do with metered parking and time limited parking areas. With a valid MTO Accessible Parking Pass (both temporary and permanent) a person with a disability is exempt from paying for metered parking. The standard time limit for metered parking is two hours, but we are exempted up to three hours. So if an officer was checking meters, they would see the parking pass and not penalize the person for parking without paying. With automated systems, both payment and enforcement, this is a problem that requires a solution. Julianna pitched us a requirement to register annually for free and use a Hamilton Parking App to access free parking. They would still continue the extended time limit as well, but it needs to be reworded to say something like 2 hours plus fifty

percent. This way it aligns with standard parking policy and makes accommodation. This is all for on street parking and not in a parking lot which has different rules.

The other matter needing review was the time limited parking. This allows a person with a valid MTO Accessible Parking Permit to park up to twelve hours on a street with a posted thirty minute limit. Julianna could not give us the history on why this number is so high, but the Chair posited an example where a person parks near a hospital to visit an emergency room and is there many hours past the time limit.

Julianna accepted this may be happening, but in their experience, the area around hospitals is being frequented by the same cars, day in and day out, suggesting it is, in fact, staff members using the parking exemption on a daily basis.

Julianna explained that the City will be using more automated systems to read license plates that are unable to check the dash for an MTO Sticker.

Julianna again suggested that the program could continue in much the same form, but would also require a parking app to log the use so it is in the system. Julianna assured us that it is still required to be cited by an officer for a fine, it doesn't automatically issue tickets.

Julianna will put together a package of parking regulations for us to study in detail for future consultations as it is a far more complex topic than we were aware of. We will revisit this next month.

5. LRT Disability Justice Audit Discussion: We decided that the parking discussion was so dense and taxing, that we would postpone the discussion and set up a special meeting in the next week as it is time sensitive.

6. Review of Issues with Construction and a Safe Throughway: No staff attended to discuss this with so will be postponed to next month.

7. Other Business: There was no other business.

8. Adjournment