



May 21, 2020

His Worship Mayor Charlie Clark and City Councillors  
City Hall  
222 Third Avenue North  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Dear Mayor Clark and City Councillors,

Re: Reinstatement Pay Parking

Please accept this letter in support of the recommendation to reinstate pay parking in the Downtown district as of May 25, 2020 as set out in the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) report, and as passed at the GPC meeting on May 19, 2020.

Downtown Saskatoon supported the decision to suspend regular parking enforcement and payment at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. With so many businesses now reopening, parking needs have changed and vehicles parking all day long in the same stall are an impediment to conducting business. Turnover in on-street parking is important, and that importance is evident going back to July, 1950 when pay parking first became a reality in Downtown Saskatoon when a nickel of payment allowed for one-hour of parking!

For business access, we need different vehicles to occupy the same spot as the day goes on. Currently we are seeing many cars parked in the same spot all day, making it unlikely that the person is picking up food, doing some shopping, or getting a haircut, especially when this behaviour was observed prior to May 19 when many of the businesses listed in Phase 2 were not yet open.

Since it was publicized that the City of Saskatoon planned to reinstate pay parking on June 1, 2020, I received several calls and emails from businesses in various sectors including retail, personal services, insurance, medical, legal, and restaurants all wondering if the date could be moved up. I appreciate the position taken by so many City Councillors and Administration at the GPC meeting and for holding this special meeting today to hopefully bring back the regularity of parking that has been in existence for almost 70 years!

We look forward to a return to “normal” on May 25, 2020. Our Clean Team has added disinfecting of the pay stations to their regular duties, and virtually every business has hand sanitizer available for customers or clients. We have been working hard to support businesses allowed to reopen and want everyone to feel welcome **#BACKDOWNTOWN**. We will also use our social media channels to help spread the word should City Council decide that May 25, 2020 is the day for the parking to return to normal.

Sincerely,



Brent Penner  
Executive Director

cc: Chris Beavis, Chair, Downtown Saskatoon Board of Management  
Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager  
Lynne Lacroix, General Manager, Community Services  
Cindy Yelland, City Solicitor  
Joanne Sproule, City Clerk