

## **Parking Pass for Residents at the Waterfront**

June 25, 2021

From the recent beach survey an amazing 65% of residents wanted designated resident parking (permit holders)

Also, oddly enough, 44% wanted to increase parking fees, currently \$2 per hour. - I assume they meant for visitors and not to increase the cost for themselves!

I believe, that is a safe assumption - very few people want to pay more!

-----

I am not here to recommend “designated residents parking” but what I want to describe is the affect of parking regulations on much of the public. I apologize if this sound overly critical, but getting a ticket does provoke emotion.

On Monday I saw an older gentleman get out of his car, using his walker to inch along, when a bylaw officer, very large, very imposing with a loud voice instructed him to walk over to get a ticket, but if he stayed with 6 feet of his car or stayed in his car, then he would not get a ticket. Is that how we want to treat our residents?

I spoke to an older couple on Tues, sitting by the beach. Each day this woman picks up her husband at the nursing home and wheels him down to the beach. He loves this time. They were previously in the trailer park front row for 25 years. She described the annoyance of finding coins and leaving her sick husband to go and feed the meter. Is that how we want to treat our residents? I told her that town staff (Renee C.) said that arranging an annual pass for the waterfront parking lots could be done through their parking technology.

On Friday I spoke a gentleman about boating and out of the blue he told me he just missed getting a ticket. He seemed quite relieved. The bylaw officer was placing tickets on several cars near the coast guard station. The officer had just driven around 3<sup>rd</sup> Street and gave out some more tickets, then to Division looking for other victims. This goes on day after day. Is that how we want to treat our residents? Does this make a feel-good town?

-----

Do our residents deserve to be reprimanded and disciplined? I've seen seniors who simply forget to pay, others who forgot the time when chatting with a friend or at a restaurant.

Is that really what we want for Cobourg? How can we eliminate this? It's actually very simple – sell waterfront seasonal parking passes to Cobourg residents.

I know you councillors are busy but let's make this a priority to use this technology to make Cobourg residents life better.

This parking pass also fulfills the “user fee” principle. Obviously, it's understood it is based on a first come first serve. As the program is made public, any tickets given would, of course be accompanied with the info of new parking pass.

### *Appendix*

*Renee C. was off on maternity and then Covid hit and one delay after another. I believe that waterfront passes were on the agenda.*

### *Cost?*

- *Wasaga Beach charges \$ 28 for a seasonal pass to their beach parking lots. With the provincial park – this is obviously a special case*
- *Uxbridge charges \$ 20.00 per month for a pass and is upping the out-of-towners to \$ 10.00 per hour at the meter. An extreme*

*discouragement for low-income families, whose recreational needs are maybe more than monied families.*

- *Ajax charges visitors \$20 per visit and residents are free.*

*We, of course, cannot use these as a guideline, since every town is so very different. Residents of Wasaga should not be charged \$ 15 for every visit as their beach was always free.*

*I would be willing to pay annually \$100.00, but \$ 60.00 would be acceptable to most.*

*I am not the best judge of cost of items, but I believe I'm a good judge of what residents want!*

*Ted Williams  
Cobourg*