
City Council

Motion without Notice

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| MM13.5 | ACTION | | | Ward:All |
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Accessible Parking Permits - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Mike Del Grande

**This Motion has been deemed urgent by the Chair.*

**This Motion is not subject to a vote to waive referral.*

**This Motion has been added to the agenda and is before Council for debate.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Mike Del Grande, recommends that:

1. In the interest of fairness, City Council direct the appropriate staff to report to the February 6 and 7, 2012 meeting of City Council, through the Government Management Committee, on options for improving regulations, exemptions, and enforcement associated with Accessible Parking Permits, including options for removing exemptions for pay parking.
2. City Council direct that staff consult with interested City Councillors, accessibility advocacy groups, and provincial officials, where appropriate.
3. City Council request the Province of Ontario take effective steps to ensure that Accessible Parking Permits are issued only to qualifying applicants.

Summary

Recent media reports suggest that Accessible Parking Permits (APPs) are being abused by some unqualified motorists to obtain free parking.

APPs are intended to accommodate the needs of people who have a measurable and observable medical condition that severely limits their mobility.

Abuse of the system unfairly impacts people who legitimately require the accommodation, motorists who comply with regulations and must contend with limited parking spaces in a given area, and the City, which loses significant revenue for a service provided.

This behaviour has been observed for many years, without any apparent improvement.

The issuance of permits and enforcement of relevant by-laws are both factors that must be addressed. Although the City is responsible for determining exemptions for permit holders, the issuance of permits is provincial jurisdiction.

Unlike Toronto, other jurisdictions, such as Windsor, do not exempt APP holders from fees for parking.

It is in the interest of responsible motorists, people who legitimately require accommodation, and the City of Toronto to ensure that the integrity of the APP system is maintained through diligence in the permitting process, and the establishment and application of exemptions to parking regulations.

(Submitted to City Council on October 24 and 25, 2011 as MM 13.5)