February 26, 2013

City Clerk
Planning & Growth Management Committee
Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, 10 West
Toronto ON  M5H 2N2
Attention: Frances Pritchard

Re: Statutory Public Meeting Concerning the Proposed City-Wide Zoning By-law

Dear Ms. Pritchard;

The November 8, 2012 draft of the City-wide Zoning By-law deleted the prohibition of charging for visitor parking at apartment buildings and mixed use buildings. We support this.

The practice of visitor paid parking is used to control improper use of visitor parking spaces. On October 12, 2012, the following reasons to support the deletion were made to the Planning & Growth Management Committee. The deletion of the prohibition was supported unanimously by the Committee.

Highlights:

- This is NOT a revenue generator for apartment owners;
- Parking control is needed at selected locations such as near transit nodes and hospitals;
- Visitor parking violators are avoiding the expense of “revenue generating” parking in private and municipal parking lots and on City streets;
- The practice is not widespread;
- Toronto Community Housing is the largest user of this practice;
- The City receives in excess of $1 million per year from parking tickets issued at apartment buildings;
- In the “harmonization” process, the default should be to the standard set by five of the six former municipalities (East York, Etobicoke, Scarborough, Toronto, and York did not impose such a restriction).

The current version of the City-wide Zoning By-law allows apartment owners and property managers the ability to control improper use of visitor parking. This method has worked effectively for many years.

We appreciate the Planning & Growth Management Committee's continued support regarding this matter, and urge City Council to adopt the by-law without a prohibition of charging for visitor parking.

Please accept this written submission.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Daryl Chong
President & CEO
Greater Toronto Apartment Association