

April 20, 2023

To the Infrastructure and Environment Committee

As a local resident who has lived in this neighbourhood for over 60 years, I am very concern if Councilor Perks gets his way in keeping High Park closed 7 days a week. It was very clear in the direction he was going in when participating in the HP resource meetings. I agree with option 3 as it would benefit everyone though I was disappointed that further changes had been made to option 3 after our last meeting. Originally, the park would be open 7 days a week and at the public meeting it reflected the park would be closed on Sundays.

I have given a lot of my time to support HP over the past 30 years. I was one of the original volunteers who helped build the Jamie Bell Adventure playground, Chaired the HP Advisory Committee and currently volunteering as a board member of the High Park Nature Centre and Volunteer Co-ordinator with the Friends of HP Zoo.

As the Volunteer Co-ordinator for the FoHPZ, i need vehicle access on the weekends to the Zoo to bring in supplies on the weekends when the Llama Pen activities is open.

I'm in the park every morning walking with friends and our dogs. Last year a dog was in medical distress and the owner had no way of getting their dog out of the park due to the closer of the park.

I was able to contact the zookeepers to let them know of the situation and was able to let the person in with their car to assist with getting their dog to a vet.

I realize that this situation is not common, though this situation has happened to people hurting themselves on toboggans and the ambulance not sure how to gain entrance to the park.

I live on Ellis Ave/Queensway. During the summer when everyone is flocking to HP, they end up parking around the park and causing congestion. Ellis Ave has a live lane going north from the Queensway and people will park in this lane. It prevents cars from turning right from the Queensway on Ellis Ave as cars are parked in this lane. Bi-law enforcement would come out to ticket so the City is making \$ but it doesn't solve the traffic chaos having the park closed to users.

Please read the comments in the petition to leave HP open to vehicles which has over 2,700 comments.

Please share my letter with the public.

Robin Sorys

rsorys@sympatico.ca