

Planning and Housing Committee

City of Toronto
100 Queen St W
Toronto, ON

January 23, 2025

RE: PH18.3 - Recommended Parking Requirements for New Development - Accessible, Bicycle, Visitor

Dear Planning and Housing Committee Members,

The Atmospheric Fund (TAF) is a regional climate agency that invests in low-carbon solutions in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. We are providing feedback on the City's proposed amendments to Zoning By-law 569-2013. Specifically, we would like to express our support for the proposed amendment to allow the number of lawful parking spaces for non-residential uses in existing buildings to be reduced.

While the amendment is intended to support the commercial parking levy, it also represents an opportunity to facilitate the deployment of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and accelerate EV uptake. EV charging companies have reported barriers to installing charging stations in Toronto due to regulations prohibiting the removal of existing non-residential parking spaces. Removing this barrier will offer building owners the flexibility to install EV charging infrastructure that in some cases requires the removal of an adjacent parking space to accommodate electrical equipment.

In addition, we encourage City staff to consider expanding this approach to allow the removal of **residential** parking spaces specifically when it enables the installation of EV charging infrastructure. Such a limited exemption will mitigate the risk, identified by staff, of property owners removing substantial amounts of parking at once and creating parking shortfalls. At the same time, this exemption will further enhance EV charging accessibility for Torontonians who live in multi-unit residential buildings. Ensuring that residents have the ability to install charging infrastructure at home is critical to supporting widespread EV adoption.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this feedback. We applaud the City's ongoing efforts to advance climate action across Toronto.

Sincerely yours,



Ian Klesmer
Director of Strategy and Grants, The Atmospheric Fund

About The Atmospheric Fund

The Atmospheric Fund (TAF) is a regional climate agency that invests in low-carbon solutions for the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) and helps scale them up for broad implementation. We are experienced leaders and collaborate with stakeholders in the private, public, and non-profit sectors who have ideas and opportunities for reducing carbon emissions. Supported by endowment funds, we advance the most promising concepts by investing, providing grants, influencing policies, and running programs. We're particularly interested in ideas that offer benefits in addition to carbon reduction such as improving people's health, creating local jobs, boosting urban resiliency, and contributing to a fair society.