

CO-24-40

From: Berry Hill <hello@berryhillfoodco.ca>

Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 10:35 AM

To: Dan Carter <DCarter@oshawa.ca>; Derek Giberson <DGiberson@oshawa.ca>; Mary Cousineau <MCousineau@oshawa.ca>; Hailey Wright <HWright@oshawa.ca>

Subject: Parking letter

Dear Mayor of the City of Oshawa Mr. Dan Carter,

Dear Hailey, Mary and Derek

I hope this letter finds you well.

Berry Hill Food Co. has been proudly serving Oshawa since March 2013.

In that time, we have seen a lot of changes and heard a lot of stories. Unfortunately, the most common story we hear these days is about parking.

Yesterday's story went something like this "oh man, I'm really sorry about what the city did to your parking. Did you know you are the only strip downtown with zero parking on either side of the street."

Its true, the expansion of sidewalks in front of our establishment last year led to the removal of the few street parking spots available, leaving our customers with no parking options on our block. While we support the idea of a more walkable cityscape the timing has been very hard. After navigating through the challenging landscape of government measures during the COVID-19 pandemic and the severe impact it had on our business and our morale Waiting for things to get better, for offices and sidewalks to fill up again is not an option. We need an immediate solution.

"Where am I supposed to park???", "The parking situation here is ridiculous, I am so sorry that I was late."

Although parking alternatives such as the public parking garage on King Street and Prince St. or the lot south of the Robert McLaughlin Gallery have been suggested, they are inconveniently located or too far away. Additionally, the Centre street intersections at both Bond and King are far from pedestrian-friendly. Consequently, we have seen a noticeable decline in business.

We feel that we are running out of time, we urgently appeal to the City to address this pressing issue by exploring viable solutions, such as converting the underutilized parking garage on the North-West corner of King Street and McMillan into a partially public parking space. We believe this straightforward and expedient measure will give us a safe and marketable answer to the question: where do we park?

Sincerely Yours,

Team Berry Hill
905.240.9055
Catering 7 days a week