

Mayor Guthrie and Members of Council:

A "Community Toilet Scheme" is long overdue. As a municipal government, sanitation is your "your lane", whether it is in the public realm or private homes.

Other cities in other countries, in Canada and even locally, have autonomous, self-cleaning washrooms.

Paris, France has these kinds of washrooms located on busy street corners and in parks. Montreal has these kinds of washrooms in tourist areas. Even the town of Fergus has one of these self-cleaning washrooms in a downtown park near the Gorge.

We learned during the pandemic that we cannot depend on private enterprises to provide these services. Moreover, it is not their job.

I once witnessed a homeless couple begging security in the Old Quebec St. Mall to use the washrooms - and they were denied. No one should be subjected to this kind of indignity.

Mothers with small children and individuals with colitis often need urgent access to washroom facilities.

I wholeheartedly support staff's proposals for expanding public washroom access in the downtown and throughout the City.

Other cities have resolved security issues through outside video monitoring and internal motion detectors. Guelph can too.

Sincerely,

Susan Watson