

Hello,

I am e-mailing regarding the issue below.

The active transit group is going to be at City Council on Monday asking that they take parking off of "Wyndham Street through the downtown core." They claim that: "As stores and restaurants begin to open up, more space will be needed than what the sidewalk can accommodate for social distancing."

I am a downtown business owner who has been at the same location since the late 1990s. I am against this proposal. Limiting the parking means consumers or people with medical or business appointments downtown will have a much farther walk to get to their destination, which presents difficulties for seniors and those with limited mobility. There is very limited parking downtown as it is and as each year passes it becomes more and more of a challenge. The current shut down of many businesses has actually only just eased the lack of parking problem to the point where it is possible to find a spot during the day, but even with the closures there are still some times when spots are not readily available. A lack of parking is a deterrent to many shoppers and downtown businesses pay the price for this. Removing parking spaces and making it even more challenging to park will not encourage consumers to head downtown. Small businesses have been very hard-hit by the COVID shutdowns. They need assistance in keeping their businesses afloat, not deterrents.

Please leave the parking as it is on Wyndham Street.

Regards,

Brandi Matheson
Owner
Royal City School of Ballet and Jazz