

From: Lincoln McCardle

Date: Monday, February 17, 2014 at 10:05 AM

To: Joe Fontana, Bud Polhill, Bill Armstrong , Joe Swan, Stephen Orser, Joni Baechler, Nancy Branscombe, Matt Brown, Paul Hubert, Dale Henderson, Paul Van Meerbergen, Denise Brown, Harold Usher, Judy Bryant, Sandy White

Cc: Cathy Saunders

Subject: 10 minutes grace period for parking

Hello there,

Thanks in advance for your time. Let me begin by stating my name is Lincoln McCardle and I am a lifelong and proud London resident (Ward 13). As well, I live, work and play downtown - almost exclusively on foot so my proposal is not self-serving, but one I believe is simply in the interest of making London a friendlier and welcoming city and especially in our core, where parking is the biggest issue.

I have been following with interest the story about Toronto and the fact that the city is mulling extending the grace period for parking at expired meters to 10 minutes. (From the current five.) For the sake of fairness and to account for any time discrepancies on cellphones and watches, parking enforcement officers already give drivers that five-minute grace period before issuing tickets, This is something I think London should consider. As well, allowing time to get change to feed a meter might also be considered.

You are all fully aware that a lot of time and energy has been spent trying to revitalize our core. (With some success I might add.) I would suggest that a ticket might deter people from returning, and might be more aggravating if was issued only moments after the time expired and especially if one was to return shortly thereafter. I understand that this would involve a potential revenue loss at a time when they city needs all it can get, but the same could be said for Toronto who, citing fairness and empathy, is currently considering. Ideally this would also include privately held parking lots but I do appreciate that it might be difficult and/or impossible to institute. Clearly there would be further details that would have to be worked out but I ask only that you consider it. Take the important first step to make London a more welcoming and friendly place.

In closing, thanks again for your time and feel free to contact me at any time.  
Stay warm and all the best!

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