



Council Member Motion

For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of December 6, 2018

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** November 29, 2018
From: Councillor Alto and Councillor Thornton-Joe
Subject: Requirement for Accessible Parking

Background:

Starting Dec. 10, the province will remove the requirement for accessible parking at residential and commercial buildings from the 2018 building code, and shift the responsibility to municipalities.

The Ministry of Housing says the switch will improve accessibility, particularly at retail stores, condos and apartment buildings, by allowing local governments to set their own standards.

Under the previous building code at least one accessible parking stall was generally required for every building that provided parking. The stalls were set at specific measurements and required both a level, slip-resistant surface and accessible access to the building itself.

As many municipalities do not yet have accessible parking included in their bylaws, this change will bring confusion as each BC municipality may have different, or no, requirements. Accessibility should be regulated by the province to be consistent throughout British Columbia.

Recommendation:

That Council

1. Direct staff to report to Council on the implications of this change on city planning, parking and accessibility.
2. Request the Mayor write to the Premier of British Columbia objecting to this new policy and its negative impacts on standards of accessibility.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alto".

Councillor Alto

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlayne Thornton-Joe".

Councillor Thornton-Joe