

City of Moose Jaw

April 25, 2022

Re: One-sided parking alternative

Mr. Mayor and City Council,

This letter and petition are sent to you in concern about your decision to implement one-sided parking on the 1000 block 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N. W. The petitioners would like to offer a solution, which will be at no cost to the city, and will provide a reasonable alternative for the residents in this neighbourhood.

- Please allow us all to park with 2 wheels on the boulevard. This would allow plenty of room for emergency vehicles to navigate the street, with no hardship on the residents.

We understand the Fire Chief's concern about access. His job is to ensure access while we request that City Council look at the wider picture from the lens of a viable alternative to one-sided parking. Our street regularly sees fire trucks, ambulances, moving and cube vans. Once you limit access to parking (one-sided), it then becomes illegal for people who live on the opposite side to park in front of their homes and to have the opportunity to plug in during the harsh winter months. This is not a tenable solution. While some of have garages and/or side drives which allow for plugging in, many do not. Our block has 12 houses without parking and 5 homes that are multi-unit rentals. Unfortunately, not all can afford a large lot or to build a garage on their large lot. It seems that this one-sided parking decision unfairly targets the mid- to lower income families.

For elderly, or parents with young children, carrying groceries, using their mobility aids, or parking an unreasonable distance from their home is unfair and unnecessary. Especially in winter when their unplugged car may not even start. There is simply not enough room on one side of the street to accommodate all the vehicles in our neighbourhood; especially with students from Central Collegiate parking on our street. Further, there is just no option to park on Hall St. W. due to the city graders pushing all the snow to the sides of the street. Plus, it is just unreasonable to ask young families and elderly to park there, so far from their homes.

As such, parking becomes an impossible situation which will certainly pit neighbours against each other while they jockey for a spot near their homes. Plus, the side which cannot park in front of their homes will not be able to plug in either. Unfair for sure.

Please allow us to park with 2 wheels on the boulevard until the cast iron pipes are replaced and the street is widened. Then, we can all go back to all wheels on the street with no hindering of emergency vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important and adversely impactful matter. We are respectfully asking you to please reconsider this decision.