From: derrick thornborrow
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2010 12:36 PM
To: Whitehead, Terry; clerk@hamilton.ca
Subject: Parking meters waterdown

I would like this forwarded to all councillors and put on Public record as well as brought forward on the next Council meeting.

I have some serious concerns regarding the prospect of Parking meters in Waterdown. This will be the nail in our coffin in our Village. From our core, a stones throw away, are 2 Plazas with free parking commerce in Downtown Waterdown is Doomed! I don't appreciate other BIAs dictating the demise of our Village. A study that would look at our unique needs was never performed and one blanket policy was implemented for the entire city, this is amalgamation at it's worst. This is lazy and sloppy! The following excerpt from Stoney Creek BIA expresses my concerns as well.

"This is a broader issue that the City of Hamilton must address. There is the need to treat all BIAs similarly and with that, a desire not to give any BIA an extra advantage over the others. There are several issues to be address that are beyond this small follow-up report. However, parking must be looked at on an individual basis and cannot be approached with a city-wide blanket policy. On-street parking should allow for convenient visitor usage and allow for shortterm, higher turnover usage. Those visitors wanting to stay longer should be encouraged to park in adjacent lots or garages if available (which we in Waterdown DONT HAVE!!!!). Parking policies must also work together with public transit and other movement accessibility programs such as bike lanes and walking. In addition, the parking policies must address the competition that each business district faces and what the competing business areas have in terms of parking policies."

Downtown Merchants, Restaurants and Medical Clinics have expressed concern that parking meters will impact their businesses.

Plaza Merchants and other business owners have expressed concern that shoppers will park vehicles in their lots to avoid meter costs, reducing parking spots for their own clients.

Shoppers will be inconvenienced not only by parking fees but also by limited time on meters.
Homeowners close to the downtown core are not happy that they will experience full day parking in front of their homes.

Employees of downtown businesses will not be able to use metered parking due to short term time limits forcing them to park on streets in residential areas as the City has not provided any long term parking.

Regards,
DT
Waterdown Optometric Clinic