

February 2, 2024

Dear Mayor and Ward Councillors for the Town of Newmarket,

With the opportunity provided for public input at the February 5th, 2024 public meeting, please accept the following written deputation in regard to the 'Downtown Parking' (Keith Davis Tennis Centre).

Firstly, we would ask that you consider:

- 48% of global carbon emissions are from passenger cars and vans alone (2022)
- 13-18% of the total embodied carbon footprint of any construction project (UNEP, 2007) and 100% of the total embodied carbon footprint of any landscape project is released the year the project is built or installed.
- The remainder of the carbon footprint is the operational carbon released and the landscape carbon sequestered over the life of the project, typically 30 to 80 years.
- The approved Town of Newmarket Community/Municipal Energy Plan 2016 states its purpose is to 'take Newmarket from a future of expensive and inefficient energy consumption to a future that is sustainable and responsible.. and make choices that will reduce (your) carbon footprint'.
- The better the transit system, the more likely people will use it. Investment could be redirected to this purpose.
- Public transit improvements rather than another parking lot provides equity of access and a greater sense of community for all.
- How much more congestion will this parking lot accumulate on the already crowded downtown core?

Questions for this project:

1. How will the Town enforce its Official Energy Plan and continue to be a leader in environmental stewardship in regard to zero-emissions and reducing its environmental impact? The goal is to reduce community GHGs per capita by 50% - how does this parking lot help or does it encourage more people to use their cars?

2. What is the Town's parking minimum? Are 200 needed for this site? What is the calculated number of public parking spots in Newmarket per resident already?

3. Has the Town considered developing specific and frequent **express** buses, EV even better, from other high population areas in town to access Main St and vice versa rather than more parking? This would be in addition to its current plans for ridership. For example, a shuttle that runs from Upper Canada Mall or hospital parking lots, 404 plaza or carpools and Go-Transit?

<https://www.cpha.ca/public-transit-factsheet>

<https://www.parkingindustry.ca/parking-101/sustainable-parking-solutions>

<https://building.ca/feature/new-green-parking-lot-in-the-gta-to-improve-local-eco-system/>

<https://www.oala.ca/ground-57-greening-mini-forests>

<https://www.yourleaf.org/blog/amanda-gomm/nov-24-2011/designing-trees>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Berczy_Park