

Nancy Marshall

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From: Michael Elkin [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2013 12:37 AM
To: Nancy Marshall
Cc: councillor_ainslie@toronto.ca; councillor_davis@toronto.ca; councillor_doucette@toronto.ca; councillor_robinson@toronto.ca; councillor_carroll@toronto.ca; city@thestar.ca
Subject: Fairview Library Parking

The Secretary
Toronto Public Library Board
789 Yonge Street
Toronto, Ontario M4W 2G8

February 21, 2013

In accordance with Library Board policy, I request that my contact information be withheld from the public.

I am writing to state my objection to the proposed institution of paid parking at the Fairview Library. I fail to see any benefit to the patrons of the library, and can only see how this will have a negative impact on the user community. While Fairview Library is surrounded by a number of high-density buildings, many users who live in homes in the area are too far away to walk. A significant number are seniors who depend on automobile transportation to get from their homes to the library.

A few years ago, the medical building adjacent to the library instituted paid parking. While this certainly was a cash grab for the landlord, it really turned into a situation whereby a majority of the people using the 5 Fairview Mall Medical Building park their cars in the Fairview Mall parking lot at no charge and walk over. I am one of them, and I always give a silent thank you to Cadillac Fairview Corporation.

The library is also adjacent to Fairview Mall, and I would guess that a large number of people will park at the mall and walk through the parking lot. Many of these will be seniors whose discretionary income has better uses than parking fees. Unfortunately, they will be more at risk during their walk. There is a high volume of traffic where they will walk and have to cross two parking lot through roads.

I find it interesting to note that all except two Board members are well-paid professionals or city councillors, certainly earning in the top ten percent of annual incomes. These people are certainly not users of Fairview Library, nor would they be impacted by parking fees. The majority of people who do use the library are not in the same income bracket, and the additional cost will be noticeable. In fact, Fairview Library is located in and serves a community which is, on average, in the lower half of household income levels in Toronto.

Yours truly,

Michael Elkin

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[REDACTED]
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