## Hamiltons of Pelham

Canboro Rd. Ridgeville, Ont. LOS 1M0

July 28, 2022

Re: 10.2.5 Parking Options for Village of Ridgeville at Bulk Water Filling Station

Attention: Town of Pelham Council,

This letter is to express our disappointment in Council coming to the conclusion that parking is not a priority for vibrant, successful and financial contributors to our community.

The Town of Ridgeville has been neglected on a regular bases by the Town of Pelham, when it comes to supporting local businesses. I can assure you that our hamlet attracts a large base of customers from all over, as stated by Mayor Junkin.

As stated, we have been a quiet group, patiently waiting for things to get done.

Parking: on a daily bases we see customers drive away without stopping because they are unable to find parking. In your report it is determined that we are grotesquely short of parking (37%). Would we not be correct to assume we are watching 37% of our business drive away? We have waited years for this parking. For it to be postponed to be "reviewed" again in 2023 is a failure of Council on supporting the Shoppes of Ridgeville.

As opposed to saying it is "Too expensive", not one councilor inquired if there may be a less expensive option. I myself am wondering why it costs \$1000 to paint the lines for this parking. On that note we are a supportive community of each other and I am sure we would be happy to paint the lines ourselves, if that would help cut costs.

Unfortunately, the extra parking requirement to successfully operate our businesses is a portion of what we are NOT seeing from the Township of Pelham.

The road lines for parking in the area or so faint that it is causing chaos and confusion. Customers are unable to see the markings which is causing people to park in front of fire hydrants and driveways. I have taken time out of my business to direct traffic to ensure people are not obstructing hydrants and driveways.

Recently I had a local resident yell at a customer because they were blocking his driveway. This would have never happened had everything been clearly marked. (Hamiltons of Pelham submitted a work order for this to be done in May of 2022)

Another local resident parks in one of the parking spots every day, because people park across his driveway. Once again, another easy fix if things were clearly marked. Regardless, this has resulted in another lost parking spot.

At this time, I would also like to reiterate what Mayor Junkin said about buses. We are a destination area; the shops are eclectic unique and are oozing with character. The option to have buses come with somewhere to park would be an amazing for our businesses, but at this time does not exist. We will not include this in our LOST business, but put it under business we will never get until the parking situation is improved.

Parking is mandatory for the success of the businesses in Ridgeville. We have far too many obstacles in regards to having adequate parking. This parking is used for people taking walks, which is fantastic however, 4 people will meet to go for a walk in 4 cars. That is a loss of 4 parking spots for 1-8hrs. We have had people park their cars and set up lawn chairs to sit and have a drink (from home). People meet here to go for bike rides, because Pelham is a biking community. We want this to be a welcoming community for people to walk, bike and enjoy but at the cost of loss of business due to lack of parking, well-marked parking and monitoring of the existing parking is all a bit much.

Lastly, one of the local businesses in Ridgeville does not have their own parking, currently they are using the water station as their parking. The importance of noting this is that of the public parking spaces available is partly getting absorbed by one of the businesses. More loss of business due to more shortage of parking.

I implore council to review the parking again and find a less expensive option that might be in your scope for this year. As well information on what the businesses of Ridgeville could do to have themselves put on your radar.

I look forward to hearing back from all council members in regards to this, and how in the future the Town of Pelham plans on supporting the Shoppes of Ridgeville as a business in their jurisdiction. I have a feeling moving forward we will no longer be the "Quiet, Patient" group.

Heather Hamilton Owner/Operartor Hamiltons of Pelham