

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, February 25, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Barrie introduces HotSpot parking app

(Barrie, ON) Residents and visitors in Barrie will soon have a new way to pay for parking. Starting March 1, drivers will be able to pay for parking from their smartphone using the <u>HotSpot</u> app, which can be downloaded for free from the App Store or Google Play.

"This app makes parking easier and contactless, with no need to deal with coins or credit cards anymore," said Mayor Jeff Lehman. "It's simple to pay and go, making it easier for residents and visitors to shop and enjoy the downtown and waterfront, and visit the hospital."

The City of Barrie parking rates remain the same. HotSpot charges a \$0.20 convenience fee per parking session—however users have the option to refund unused parking time easily if they are finished early. The app also sends reminders that the parking session is ending and allows users to seamlessly extend time from wherever they are.

The app can be used in all <u>municipal paid parking spots</u> and will add to the already existing payment options like meters and pay stations, for those without a smartphone. Monthly and annual memberships (\$2/month or \$20/year) are available for frequent users. HotSpot will pay for the first 30 minutes of any parking session for all new registered users.

To learn more about the app and parking in the city, visit barrie.ca/parking.

-30-

For more information, please contact: Scott LaMantia Senior Communications Advisor <u>scott.lamantia@barrie.ca</u> 705-739-4220 x4529