

**Subject:** [Fwd: Pay parking in our parks]

**Date:** Mon, 14 Feb 2005 14:45:46 -0800

**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>

**To:** Corrie Kost <kost@triumf.ca>

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**Subject:** Pay parking in our parks

**Date:** Mon, 14 Feb 2005 08:41:41 +0000

**From:** Bill Maurer <billm@millsoft.ca>

**To:** council@dnv.org

**CC:** fonvca@fonvca.org;directors@seymourvalley.ca;

I was distressed to see council approve the implementation of pay parking in Cates Park, Lynn Canyon Park, and Deep Cove/Panorama Park at last Tuesdays council meeting. Is this the legacy we want to leave our children?

Governments are indistinguishable from private companies when they begin treating public lands in a private way by barring access or by charging for their use (either directly or through parking fees). Governments are supposed to be custodians of the land not private owners. I would prefer to continue to fund parking at district parks through property taxes. It has been a shame to see the parking lots at Mt Seymour and Cypress and also the Grouse Mtn paved lots fall to the evil parking meters. Just because it has been done in other jurisdictions doesn't make it the right thing to do here. It's important to note that West Vancouver is also not charging for parking at places like Ambleside park. The movement should be towards more free parking, not less. Let's continue to act like we're the custodians of these magnificent forested lands and not like they are something that can be used to generate revenue.

I didn't hear much discussion about what would be happening to the funds that are currently maintaining these lots or much interest in how local residents might feel about this.

Bill Maurer  
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