

## 10. Parking Services



### WHAT IS THE SERVICE?

Parking Services includes both maintenance and enforcement operations, providing parking for residents, businesses and visitors of the municipality. The goal of parking services is to ensure parking opportunities are made available in an equitable, affordable and safe manner.

The primary objectives for parking services are to provide:

- ▶ On-street meter parking in business areas that operate at an affordable rate, with hours of use conducive to turnover and to the needs of the businesses
- ▶ Off-street parking lots and structures that meet the needs of the area community
- ▶ Residential parking program that effectively address the parking requests and achieve equitable balance of the limited space requirements in defined areas of municipalities
- ▶ Enforcement of parking by-laws to ensure safety for the community

### WHAT ARE THE MAJOR SERVICE DELIVERY ISSUES?

Issues facing the delivery of Parking Services are:

- ▶ Multiple stakeholders - successful service delivery means balancing and satisfying the needs of the business community, Council and residents
- ▶ Fiscal sustainability - to balance affordability and need to generate sustainable revenues
- ▶ Policy challenges - the need to balance adequate access to parking for diverse users - residents, employers, institutions, and tourists - while considering land use alternatives and encouraging the use of public transit

**WHAT ARE THE RESULTS?**

**How many parking spaces do municipalities provide?**

FIG. 10.1 Number of Paid Parking Spaces Managed per 100,000 Population

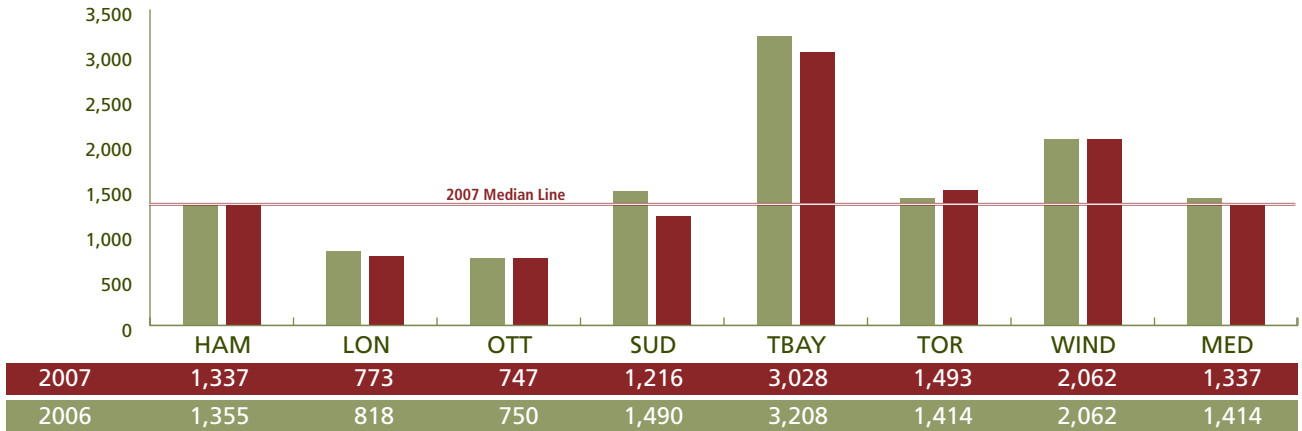


Figure 10.1 shows the number of paid parking spaces available in municipalities per 100,000 population. In Thunder Bay, the City provides most of the parking in five distinct business areas as there is no zoning requirement for businesses to provide their own customer and staff parking.

**What is the cost of hourly parking?**

FIG 10.2 Average Hourly Rate for On-Street Parking

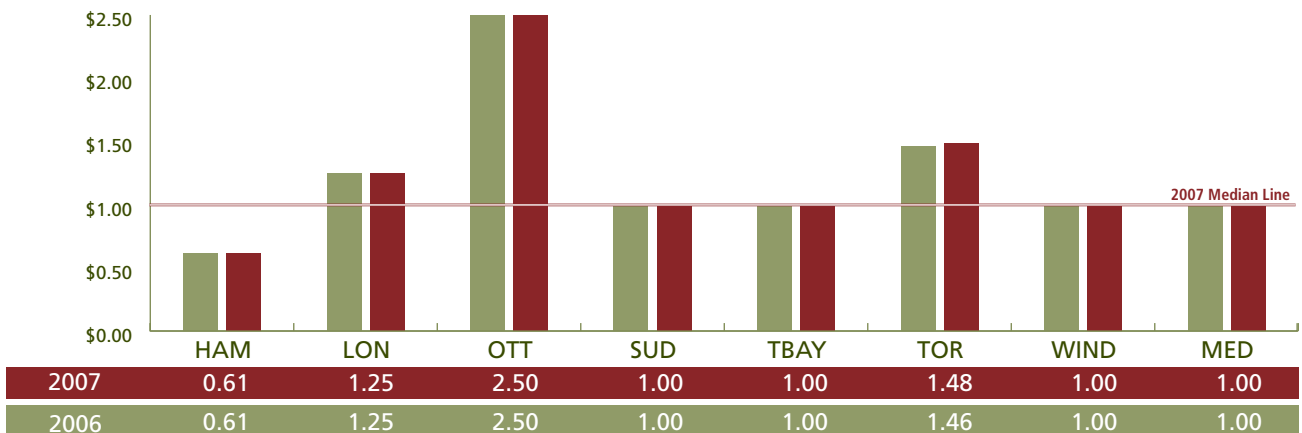


Figure 10.2 illustrates that for municipalities who manage this service, the cost of parking per space has remained unchanged from one year to the next. In an effort to revitalize the Downtown Core Hamilton has kept their parking rates low and hence they fall below the median.

## What is the cost of parking per space?

FIG. 10.3 Parking Services Cost per Paid Parking Space Managed

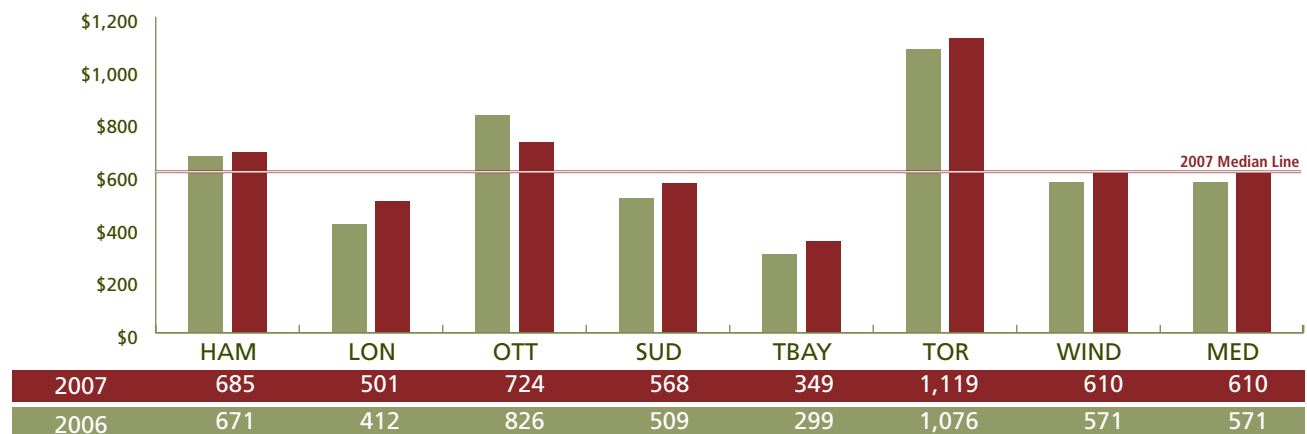


Figure 10.3 shows the municipal cost of providing parking services per parking space managed. High service costs in Toronto are due to a higher ratio of more expensive off-street to on-street parking, higher taxes on off-street spaces and a large number of attended facilities as opposed to pay and display lots.

### WHAT SHOULD YOU CONSIDER WHEN REVIEWING THESE RESULTS?

Each municipality's results are influenced to varying degrees by a number of factors, including:

- ▶ Local policies - by-laws and standards set by the municipality's Council vary considerably
- ▶ Geographic layout of on-street and off-street parking spaces compared to parking needs in municipalities
- ▶ Geographic size and available resources for enforcement coverage
- ▶ Technological support - the type and quality of technology used to manage operations and enforcement

For more information about the results, contact the Municipality's representative listed in Appendix F, page 94.