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December 17, 2010

The Honorable Richard Moccia
Mayor, City of Norwalk
125 East Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06851

Ms. Kathryn Hebert
Executive Director, Norwalk Parking Authority
11 North Water Street
Norwalk, CT 06854

Dear Mayor Moccia and Ms. Hebert:

A constituent recently brought to my attention a troubling issue regarding parking at the South Norwalk Train Station.

According to the report I received, which I have since corroborated and believe to be accurate, monthly pass holders are being gouged when the station lot is full. Pass holders pay \$80 per month for their parking and, when the station lot is full, are directed to the Webster Street lot where they are expected to pay an additional charge.

While I understand that it is common to oversell spaces, it is patently unfair for the parking authority to require those who have already purchased a monthly pass to pay an additional fee because of the city's over-sale of spaces.

One of our goals as a state and as a community is to encourage the use of mass transit and commuting in order to alleviate traffic on our highways. Policies such as these—where the exact same authority charges monthly payers for daily use—stifle commutation and are wholly counterproductive.

My suggestion would be to find a way to accommodate those overflow commuters by honoring their train station parking passes at the Webster Street lot. I'm sure you can make the logistics work to the benefit of everyone.

You have the ability to right this wrong, and I hope that you'll do so. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. I look forward to your timely response.

Sincerely,

Bob Duff
Connecticut Senate

cc: John Federici, Chair, Norwalk Parking Authority