



City of Markham Places of Worship Future Directions Report

September 2013



Presentation Agenda

- ▶ Background
- ▶ Scoped Review Process
- ▶ Conclusions



Background

- ▶ Previous Study 2002–2003
- ▶ Resulted in OP & Zoning amendments
- ▶ By-law transcription issue with non-fixed seating area occupant calculations
- ▶ Addressed through housekeeping amendment which was appealed
- ▶ To ensure up to date information to address appeal scoped review undertaken



Scoped Review Process

- ▶ General review of Place of Worship Development Trends, including approach in other municipalities, as basis for:
 - consideration of general policy approach
 - parking standards
- ▶ Review of existing parking standards, including parking survey of 6 places of worship



Conclusions: Development Trends

- ▶ No significant changes in trends. Issues in Markham similar to those in other municipalities
- ▶ Existing policy framework still appropriate as it responds to the following trends:
 - Continuing increases in number/type of Places of Worship
 - Specific development controls to address impacts from:
 - larger facilities
 - auxiliary uses
 - locations outside residential areas particularly in employment areas
 - Need to recognize
 - all stages of development
 - importance as part of “social safety net”



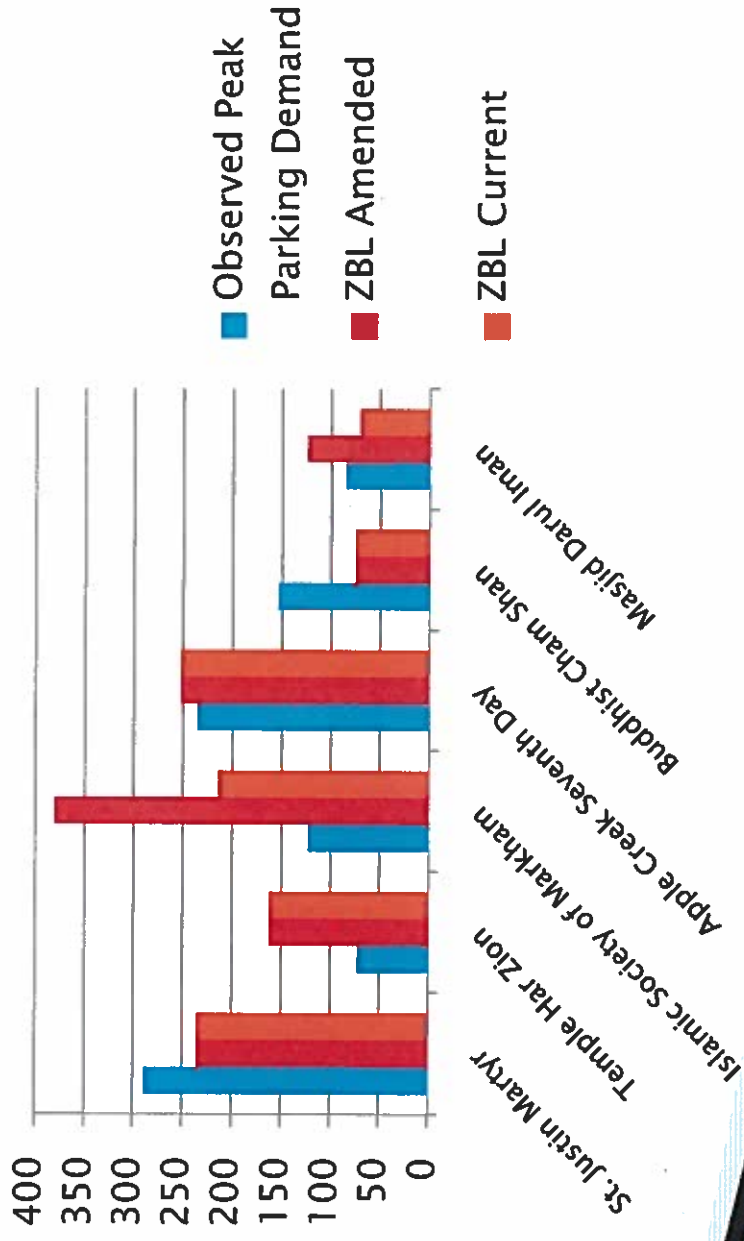
Conclusions: Policy/Regulatory Framework

- ▶ Original study conclusions generally appropriate including:
 - Restrictions on development in Agricultural Areas
 - Flexible approach to locations in the Urban Area with the exception of industrial areas
 - Careful evaluation to ensure compatibility with respect to traffic, parking, location and scale
 - Specific studies required to address issues
 - Continuation of site reservation policy for new secondary plan areas



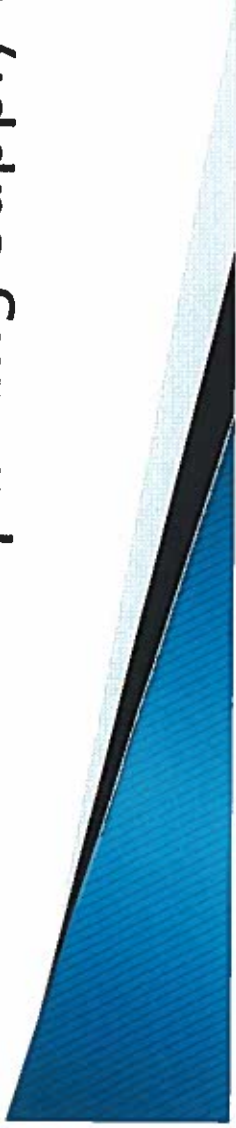
Conclusions: Parking Standards

- ▶ The Zoning By-law requirements as corrected will accommodate observed peak parking demand at 4 of the 6 surveyed sites



Conclusions: Parking Standards

- ▶ Zoning parking standards (when correctly applied) are on average within 5.5% of peak parking demand at 6 survey locations
- ▶ This generally confirms the validity of the original Study parking recommendations
- ▶ It is important not to underestimate net worship areas used for prayer as this will determine parking supply requirements



Thank You

