



Unlocking Solutions: Improving Parking on Campus

MOUNT ROYAL
UNIVERSITY
1910

Adrianna Guevara, Alicia Whitney, Amber Horton, Anisha Sandhu, Logan Smolnicki, Niko Jugovic, Ollie Araga and Ria Tandon

Bissett School of Business, Mount Royal University

INTRODUCTION

- Student responses to recent parking updates included the proposal of a protest [2] and others stating that the updated license plate technology “failed to address the core issue of parking availability” [13]
- Ongoing parking shortages and expenses have had a negative impact on faculty and students.
- The extent of how parking policies affect students is yet to be fully discovered. Our goal is to find areas of improvement within the parking facilities to improve student and faculty satisfaction

METHODS & BACKGROUND



Online Research



University Websites



Literature Review



Observation

The Ishikawa Diagram in Figure 1, a tool used to analyze operational challenges, was utilized to map the relationship between the observed effect (the fish head) and its potential causes (the fish bones) [1, 5]

Service-based organizations can use Ishikawa diagrams to diagnose weaknesses and enhance customer value [4]

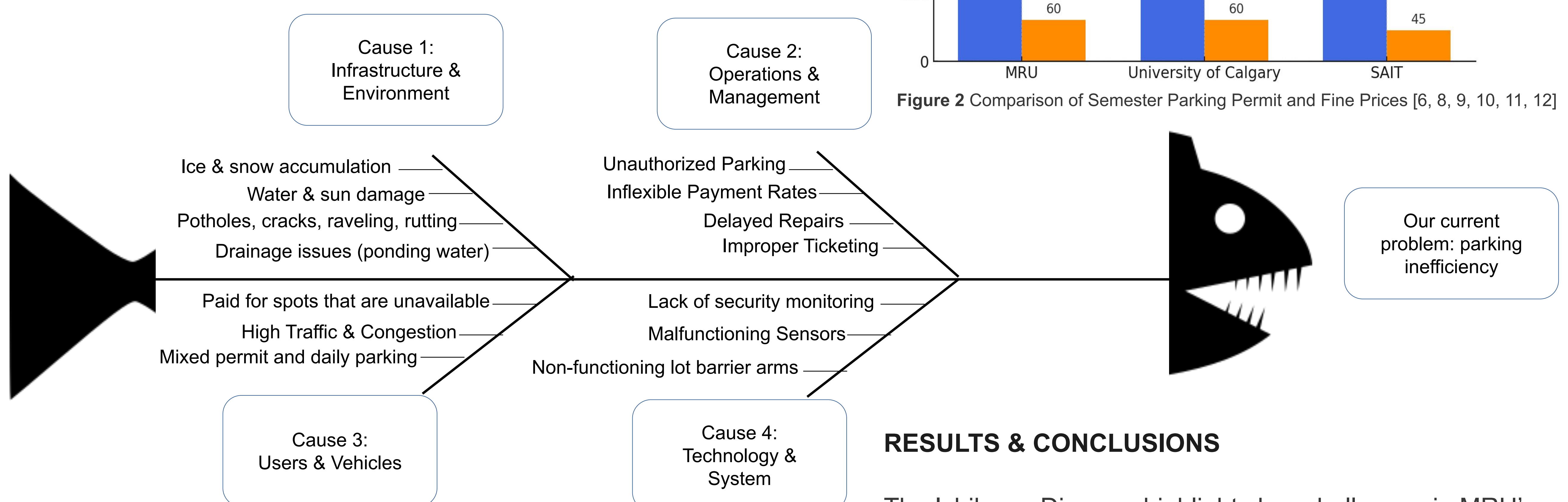


Figure 1 The Fishbone Diagram of the inefficient parking situation on campus based on observations

DISCUSSION

Students have expressed frustration over the rising cost of parking fines at Mount Royal University [3]

Increases in tuition, textbook prices, and cost of living, with the additional expense of parking has contributed to heightened financial stress among students [3]

MRU serves a population of 17,640 students and staff but provides only 4,300 parking stalls, leading to ongoing availability challenges [7, 3]

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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Compared to other local universities, MRU has higher parking fines and charges more for semester parking permits, shown in Figure 2.

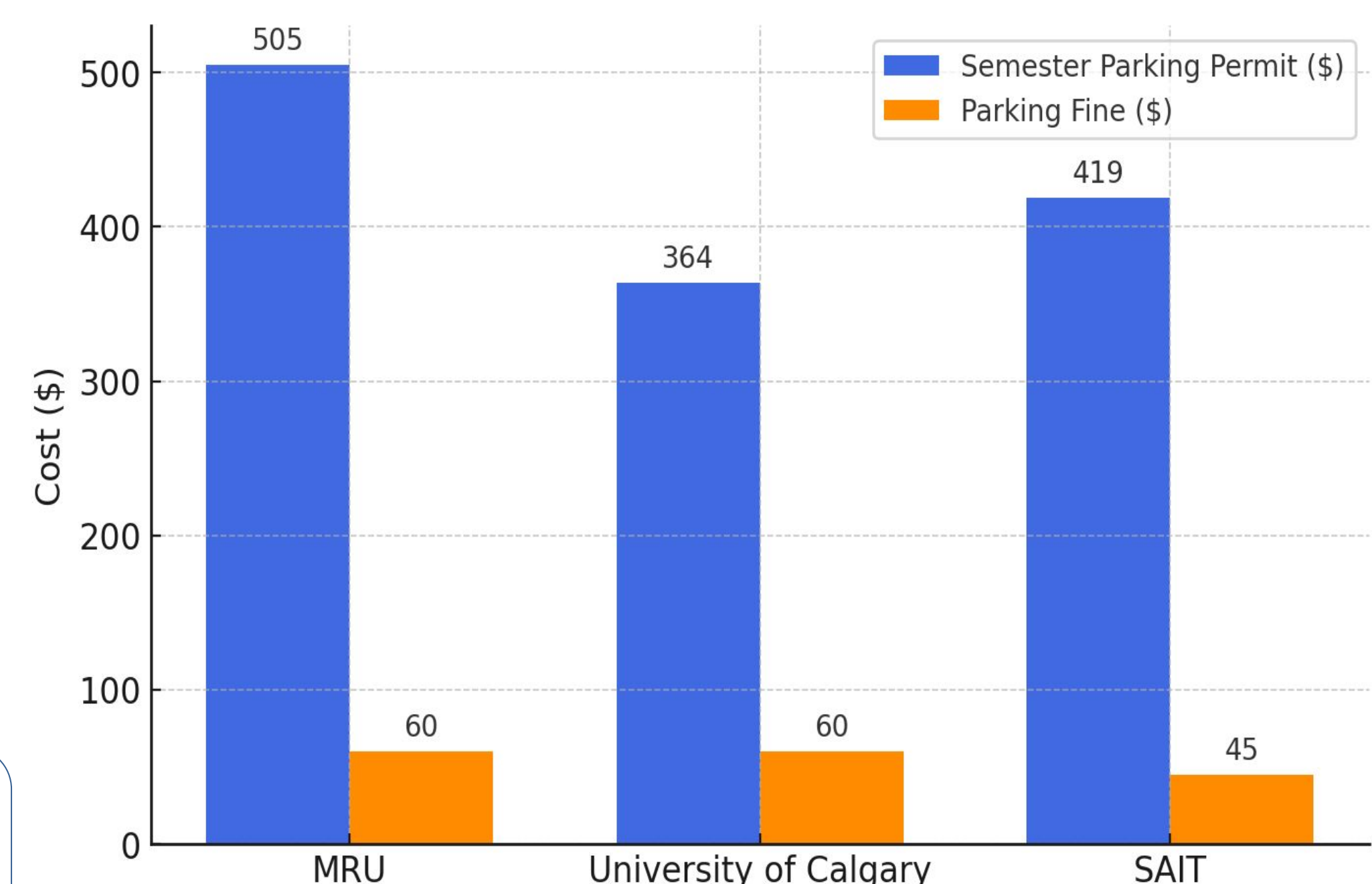


Figure 2 Comparison of Semester Parking Permit and Fine Prices [6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12]

RESULTS & CONCLUSIONS

The Ishikawa Diagram highlights key challenges in MRU's parking system, including limited availability, high costs, and congestion.

Future research could incorporate surveys and parking utilization statistics for more precise insights.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Drainage improvements, pothole maintenance and heightened unauthorized parking enforcements
- Adopting a flexible permit system combined with simplified payment process and regular facility maintenance.
- Adjusting parking prices to better reflect value and integrating a smart parking system to display real-time availability

REFERENCES

