

**DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMISSION
MINUTES
APRIL 3, 2002**

Present

John Herrington, Chair
Lita Verts
Bob Blackledge
Dick McClain
Susan Christie
Jeff Katz
Tony Van Vliet

Absent

Richard Mehlhaf

Staff

Steve Rogers, Public Works
Lee Shoemaker, Public Works
Lisa Forkner, Parks and Recreation

Ex-Officio

Tony Howell

Visitors

Kent Daniels
Susan Garber-Yonts, Downtown Transportation
Coordinator
Alan Ayres
John Muska
Stan Nudelman

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
Commission Reports	X		
Washington Avenue Short-Term Parking Request			Recommend Two 30-minute Parking Spaces
Washington Avenue, 1-3rd/500 Block 2 nd Street			Approved staff recommendations
Request for short-term parking near 8 th and Madison			Approved staff recommendations
Vacant Downtown Parking Commission Positions	X		
Visitor Comments	X		
Other Business	X		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

- I. John Herrington called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Parking Commission approved the January 23, 2002, minutes.
- II. Commission Reports - Susan Christie reported that the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission (BPAC) discussed pedestrian signal timing at its last meeting. She said the City extends the walk time over federal standards to make the streets more comfortable for pedestrians.

Chair Reports/Updates - There were no reports from the Chair.

Steve Rogers distributed the latest version of the Parking Plan. Steve reported that the Parking Plan was sent to Council and then to the Urban Services Committee. He said he would come back at the next Parking Commission meeting to get their recommendations. Steve noted that boundaries of the Intermediate Zone needed to be reviewed and that a new guiding principle had been added. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission is also reviewing the draft Plan.

Steve introduced Lee Shoemaker, the City's new Transportation Program Specialist. He said half of his time will be dedicated as Parking Manager. The Parking Manager position is one of the recommendations of the Parking Plan.

III. Discussion/Possible Action

Request for Short-Term Parking on Washington Avenue

Lee Shoemaker presented the request from the owner of Jodie's Playcare for the City to establish short-term parking in front of her facility. Lee said that Ms. Pastre said that employees in the area were parking in front of her daycare center making it difficult for parents to park directly in front. She said it would be safer for the children if parents could pick up and drop off their children directly in front of the center rather than walking across the street.

Lee said that staff made several visits at various times of the day to conduct parking surveys. He said that on all occasions parking was available on 6th on the side of the center. Parking on 6th would allow the parents and children to access the center without crossing the street.

Lee said that staff recommendation was not to making a parking change for the following reasons: parking is available on 6th and parents could be encouraged to park there if there are no spaces directly in front; traffic volumes are low and the street is narrow; and the liquor store and chiropractic clinics could be contacted to request that their employees park on 6th north of Washington Avenue.

Bob Blackledge said that 30-minute parking was appropriate for this area and it would let people know where the parking would be available when they get to the center.

Ms. Pastre said that the parents prefer to park directly in front. She said neighbors in the area and employees regularly park in front all day.

Lita Verts said that safety of children is the most important consideration.

Bob Blackledge moved that two 30-minute spaces be added to Washington in front of the daycare facility. Lita Verts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Jodie added that this was needed mostly in the afternoon around 5 p.m. The Commission agreed to limiting the 30-minute parking to weekday, 1-6 p.m.

Washington Avenue, 1st to 3rd / 500 Block of 2nd Street

Lee said that the Parking Commission received public comment from Kent Daniels at their January 23, 2002, meeting. Lee said that Mr. Daniels had requested the downtown parking district be expanded to include Washington Avenue between 1st and 3rd and the 500 block of 2nd Street. Mr. Daniels stated that downtown employees are parking in front of his business all day.

Lee noted three corrections to the staff memorandum. He said that Appendix A was a repeat of the information in the text, the dates of the surveys were March 13, 14 and 18, and there should have been a recommendation to add four short-term parking spaces on 2nd Street.

Bob Blackledge some 30 minute parking is needed but it was too early to set up a permanent plan.

Lee reported that the parking survey results showed that area exceeded the 85% full standard through most of the day. He said that a large percentage of the people that parked in the area all day.

Lee said that the Parking Plan recommends converting the uncontrolled parking on Washington to long-term meters. He said that the Plan does not recommend any specific changes to the 500 block of 2nd. He also said that parallel parking on Washington between 2nd and 3rd and the 500 block on 2nd would be converted to diagonal parking resulting in additional parking in the area.

Lee said that staff recommended the following:

- Deny the request for extension of the free customer parking district to include Washington and 2nd.
- Approving parking plan recommendation to change uncontrolled parking on Washington from 1st to 5th to long-term meters.
- Approve nine 2-hour parking spaces on the south side of Washington from 1st to 2nd.
- Direct staff to monitor the area and bring back survey results to the Parking Commission.
- Add 4 short-term parking spaces on the 500 block of 2nd.

Tony Howell said we could use some discussion about if there is a way to tell when you have enough volume of customers and you made the area free customer parking but at the same time we wouldn't be wasting spaces. We need some way to figure that out. Steve said we may be able to discuss that with the consultant. Steve noted that the free customer parking was based more on the existing land uses than parking demand.

The Commission approved staff recommendation with the condition that staff come back after the Riverfront opens to see if the parking control needs to be changed again. They also approved the four two-hour parking spaces on Washington in front of Mr. Muska business and five by Mr. Daniels business.

Request for Parking changes near 8th and Madison

Lee referred the Commission to his memo regarding a request by Dr. Nudelman for two-hour parking control on Madison between 8th and the alleyway into the former Central Park Municipal Building. Dr. Nudelman is remodeling the building to be used for office space.

Across the street from his property are seven uncontrolled parking spaces. Dr. Nudelman requests that these spaces be converted to 2 hour controls to allow turnover for customers at his building and for the visitors to Central Park.

The Parking Commission approved Dr. Nudelman's request.

Vacant Downtown Parking Commission Positions

Lee said that the Mayor contacted him about vacant parking commission positions. He said there vacant positions for neighborhood representative nearby to parking district, downtown employee and downtown non-retail business owner.

Tony Howell suggested contacting Community Development Department to get a list of neighborhood representatives.

IV. Visitor Comments

John Muska, Tin Roof Studio, distributed a memo to the Parking Commission. Mr. Muska said downtown employees are parking in front of his business at 136 SW Washington leaving no convenient parking for his customers. Mr. Muska requested four metered or short-term parking spaces.

V. Other Business

Bob Blackledge reported that the number of employees parking in the free zone has been going up. Susan Christie said that she wanted to work as hard as she can to make downtown more accessible to alternative modes. Lita Verts reported that there is a safety problem with parking structures in Eugene.

The next Parking Commission meeting will be on Wednesday, April 24, 2002, at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall Meeting Room "D".