

**DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
September 13, 2016
DRAFT**

Present

Liz White, Vice Chair
Steve Uerlings
Chris Heuchert

Staff

Lisa Scherf, Public Works
Ryan Amiton, Community Development

Absent

Brad Upton, Chair
Joseph Elwood

Visitors

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Held for Further Review	Recommendations
I. Call Meeting to Order/Introductions	X		
II. Review of July 5, 2016 Minutes			Approved
III. Visitor Comments	N/A		
IV. Old Business • Downtown Parking Study		X	
V. New Business • None	N/A		
VI. Information Sharing	N/A		
VII. Committee Requests and Reports	N/A		
VIII. Pending Items	N/A		

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. Call Meeting to Order/Introductions

Vice Chair White called the meeting to order and those present introduced themselves.

II. Review of Minutes

Committee Member Uerlings moved to approve the July minutes; Committee Member Heuchert seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

III. Visitor Comments

None.

IV. Old Business

Downtown Parking Study

The Committee discussed the 2002 Corvallis Downtown Parking Study, Phase 2: Parking Management Plan. They specifically focused on a review of the seven “Key Issues” on page 3

and the eleven “Guiding Principles” on page 4, to determine if these were still pertinent. The Committee generally agreed that these were still relevant. These comments were made about some of the specific bullet points:

Key Issues

- The first bullet point stating that “the existing auto parking supply is currently underutilized during peak days and seasons” is no longer true.
- The third bullet, “Anticipated riverfront development will increase parking needs while redevelopment of the riverfront area will result in a loss of some existing supply”, has come to fruition, since that development has occurred.
- The Committee discussed adding to a word in the last bullet, so it reads, “The Parking Commission is committed to achieving a more balanced transportation system, including increased access via walking, bicycling, and transit, and reduced reliance on automobiles.”

Guiding Principles (numbers refer to numbering of the Principles in the Plan)

- 3./5. The Committee discussed how much utilization/saturation should be observed before changes and/or additions need to be made. They agreed that the 85% threshold still made sense for considering whether the automobile and bicycle parking inventory for customers and employees was sufficient to support demand.
6. They discussed transitioning private lots to public parking after hours through shared-use agreements. Staff has reached out to private lot owners several times throughout the years but have found owners reluctant to enter into such agreements. The Committee agreed this is still a valuable concept that deserves attention again.
7. They suggested that this bullet read “The City’s ~~public information system~~ should provide a ~~clear and consistent message~~ better signage about car parking and access to and within downtown in order to optimize utility and convenience for all users.” Ms. Scherf noted that wayfinding signage could address this and the Committee agreed.

Committee Member White stated that it would be nice to have more bicycle parking corrals. She also noted that employee parking is still an issue, particularly for employees who leave work late at night and have to walk to their cars. Committee Member Uerlings asked if anyone had ever thought about selling permits to employees for after hours. He also stated that the current plan makes employee parking less important, when it should be equally as important as customer parking. The Committee discussed the idea of a shuttle between downtown and parking, but noted that it would have to be very convenient in order to be effective. In response to a question, Ms. Scherf stated that parking meter rates were last reviewed in 2007 or 2008.

Committee Member Uerlings suggested waiting until the full impact of the new hotel and museum before considering undertaking another parking study. For the October meeting the Committee agreed to read and be prepared to discuss the Parking Management Strategies beginning on page 19.

V. New Business
None.

VI. Information Sharing
None.

VII. Committee Requests and Reports

None.

VIII. Pending Items

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: October 4, 2016, 5:00 p.m., Downtown Fire Station #1