

Parking Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes: May 25, 2010

Members Present: Julie Krucek, Angela Bennink, Tammy Mattson, Craig Hammond, Dale Rudolph, Tony DeCarlo, Linda Berry-Maraist, Bill Austin, Jeff Bauman (Chair)

Members Absent: Sally Kvam, Judy Eagleson, Rick Cadwell

Staff Present: Alyse Nelson, Michael Bateman

Others Present: Becky Erickson, Adele Heinrich, Janetmarie Valeja, Wayne Speck, Mike Regis, Leila Arciero, John Ahl, Dan Hudson, Jeff Eagleson, Ralph Marsh

Update Since Prior Meeting:

Public information about the Parking Advisory Committee has been improved. Both the North Kitsap Herald and the Kitsap Sun printed Jeff Bauman's letter to the editor which described the Committee's purpose. The City's web site now contains information about the Committee, along with agendas, meeting notes, and a link to the 2008 parking management report. Information about the Committee has been sent to the Chamber of Commerce.

Committee members who were absent from our first meeting were contacted by Jeff. Although they were unable to attend, they remain interested in the work of this Committee. They will attend when possible, and in the meantime will follow the progress of the Committee via Jeff's emails.

Committee membership was expanded to include representation from the residential area adjacent to downtown. Angela Bennink as agreed to serve on the Committee in this capacity.

It was suggested that Committee membership be expanded to include a Port customer. Angela indicated that she leases moorage at the Port and can bring this perspective to the Committee. (Note: John Ahl, a live-aboard Port customer, was in attendance. At the conclusion of the meeting he indicated he'll continue to attend and provide his input without needing to be formally on the Committee.)

An article in the Kitsap Sun described the arrangement that has been made for employee parking in downtown Winslow. This article is entitled "Bainbridge Council Eyes Money Chamber Makes From Parking Program" and appears in the May 20 edition of the Kitsap Sun.

Additional Parking Along Jensen:

Staff has looked into potential configurations for additional on-street parking along Jensen between Iverson and Sunset. The City's Public Works Committee and City Council have been briefed about this concept and are supportive pending successful coordination with impacted parties such as the Post Office, Kitsap Transit and developers of the Poulsbo Place 2 master

plan. There is consensus to implement additional on-street parking for the west side of Jensen (i.e., adjacent to Bank of America and the small shops between the bank and Sunset.) Mayor Erickson will use her administrative authority to have staff complete this design, coordinate with Kitsap Transit, and implement this additional parking. However, there is not consensus regarding such parking on the east side of Jensen. Despite the Post Office's apparent willingness to consider this option, several people expressed concern regarding traffic congestion, confusion, and sight distance problems that could result if parking is added at that location. Furthermore, in a few months when the new City Hall opens, the mail drop box may be moved from its current location on Jensen in front of the Post Office to a new location up the hill on 3rd Avenue. The Mayor offered to meet with the manager of the Post Office to discuss these various possibilities. The Committee agreed to table the concept of parking along the east side of Jensen pending the outcome of these discussions.

Coordination with Private Parking Lots:

As a representative of First Lutheran Church, Mike Regis explained how the Church parking lot is being used and the circumstances/limitations regarding parking for non-Church purposes. Mike described the binding concomitant agreement between the Church and the City, indicating that on occasion public parking is made available at the Church parking lot. But this agreement (plus issues associated with the Church's tax-exempt status) would not allow for things like weekday parking for downtown employees. There are also logistical considerations when special events and/or other weekday functions at the Church would preempt employee parking and cause confusion. In short, while there are indeed unused parking spaces much of the time, there are only limited opportunities to make those spaces available for non-Church purposes.

The branch manager of the Bank of America was unable to attend this meeting, but had expressed to Julie Krucek the possibility of using the bank's lot for public parking during non-banking hours. This could be as simple as the bank posting appropriate signage in their parking lot. Nonetheless, enforcement and liability matters need to be considered. The branch manager is having this concept reviewed by the corporate office, and Julie will remain in contact with the bank as liaison from our Committee. If this comes to pass, we will need to appropriately coordinate public information and signage.

Parking Needs/Plans of the Port of Poulsbo:

Tony DeCarlo (Committee member and Port Commissioner) gave an overview of the Port's situation relative to parking. He indicated the Port leases 260 spaces for moorage (which includes 12 live-aboard units) and has an additional 130 spaces for daily rental. There are also 5 Port employees who utilize available parking space. Tony mentioned the Port's dilemma is

limited funds and lack of ownership of any land other than the recently purchased Armory Building. There are only 15 parking spaces dedicated for patrons/employees of the Port. These spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis with vehicles limited to 72 hours in these spaces. Currently the Port has no plans or funds to address the parking shortfall. The Port is attempting to manage its existing facilities as efficiently and equitably as possible.

Citizen Comments: At the beginning and conclusion of the meeting, citizen input included the following.

Poulsbo needs a large, downtown parking structure. The City and the Port should work together to accomplish this.

Parking for the handicapped is not adequate in the downtown area. Existing designated handicapped parking should be re-evaluated with the goal of finding more appropriate locations (and providing better education/signage regarding the availability of such parking). In addition, special arrangements for handicapped parking should be made and publicized for events like Viking Fest.

Better pavement markings (such as arrows) are needed in the Anderson Parkway.

Considerably more parking could be provided in Anderson Parkway if a more efficient striping pattern were implemented. A schematic was provided to the Committee illustrating how this might be accomplished.

Being close to downtown, 6th Avenue is wide enough to afford significant on-street parking.

Note: During the course of the meeting, Committee members touched upon several other topics which were not discussed in any detail but considered worthy of being placed on future agendas. It was suggested that one such issues worthy of an entire meeting (perhaps more) should be alternatives - - including financing - - for a downtown parking structure. It was also suggested (and Jeff agrees) that our limited Committee meeting time should be devoted directly to items on that meeting's agenda.

Next Steps:

Mayor Erickson will initiate steps to implement additional on-street parking for the west side of Jensen between Iverson and Sunset. Mayor Erickson and staff will prepare conceptual design(s) for potential additional on-street parking for the east side of Jensen, and will provide the Committee with such information at a future time.

Julie Krucek will continue to coordinate with the Bank of America regarding public use of the bank's parking lot.

Jeff Bauman will compile an ongoing list of issues that arise during (and between) our

meetings. We will use this list as the basis for selecting topics for future Committee meetings.

The agenda for the Committee's June 8th meeting will be:

- > Low Impact Development Concepts at Anderson Parkway
- > Engineering/Planning Staff Analysis of Proposed Restriping of Anderson Parkway
- > City's Parking Requirements/Standards for the Downtown Area

The Committee's June 22nd meeting will be devoted exclusively to the topic of possibilities for a downtown parking structure.