



Parking Technical Advisory Group

**728 St. Helens Street Room Number 16
Tacoma Municipal Building North**

Meeting #91 – February 5, 2015 4:10-6:10 PM

4:10 Meeting called to order by Co-Chair

Judi Hyman, the PTAG co-chair present, called the meeting to order. There was not a quorum present.

The January 8th notes were reviewed and amended to note the comments provided at the beginning of the meeting as presented by Eric Huseby were from e-mails and other correspondence leading up to the meeting and were not part of the public comment.

[JH] began introductions around the room. There were two members of the public present and they were invited to participate in the meeting's discussion.

There was no new information to present for the Staff Update.

Mark Smith was introduced as a future PTAG member.

4:25 Residential Parking Discussion (from feedback from the Jan. 8th meeting)

[EH] lead the discussion. It was centered on the five concern areas expressed during the public feedback received during the January 8th PTAG meeting.

Concern 1: Many current RPZ zones do not qualify for the new program because they are not located in areas of the City that are zoned residential.

Discussion:

- Zoning classification NRX was added to the list of City zoning classifications that will be identified as eligible for Residential Parking Permit control
- City staff were requested to evaluate the location of current RPZ zones that were located in zoning classification DR (Downtown Residential). If existing RPZ's were not located within the existing parking meter district, PTAG would like to

discuss the implication of including them as eligible for the new program. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

PTAG recommendation(s):

Include NRX to the list of zoning classifications that are eligible for the new RPP program.

The concept of allowing existing non-compliant zones to continue to function for 2 years from Council adoption of the new RPP ordinance, was accepted. This will permit PTAG to evaluate parking priorities in mixed use zones. It will also give existing non-qualified RPZ's within residential zoning classifications the time to identify alternate qualifying zone boundaries or other parking control options.

Concern 2: 10 block face minimum seems a daunting requirement

Discussion:

- [EH] presented potential consolidation options for existing RPZ's.
- Considering consolidation of existing RPZ's that qualify based on zoning classification an eight block minimum would capture about 55% of spaces controlled by zoning eligible RPZ's. A four block minimum would encompass nearly 70%.
- Many of the existing RPZ's that don't qualify for the block face minimum appear to have been established for the purposes of controlling the street frontage for a particular address. Most of these RPZ's control less than 5 stalls.
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- **PTAG recommendation:** The minimum contiguous size of a new residential parking zone was revised to 4 block faces or approximately 1,100 linear feet.

Concern 3: Current system works well for many existing permit holders

Discussion:

- The PTAG re-confirmed that a guiding principal of the new residential parking permit program was to provide parking priority for residents but not to exclusive use of the spaces in front of their residential units.
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- **PTAG recommendation:** The PTAG supported the development, by City staff, of a communications protocol to ensure that the occupants of noncompliant zones are contacted throughout the 2-year sunset period with expressions of support to evaluate alternate parking solutions.
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Concern 4: Apartment residents may have divergent interests versus property owners

Discussion:

- **PTAG recommendation:** Zone approval will be by the vote of a resident from each qualifying residential unit in the proposed zone

Concern 5: Proposed program is inflexible with the rules that apply to all zones regardless of unique circumstances

Discussion:

- PTAG recommendation(s):
- PTAG supported the suggestion that a time stay of 2-hours be the standard for parking duration except by permit.
- The ability of a zone to opt out of the availability of guest permits was discussed. It was suggested that guest permits be allowed; that guest permits be monitored for abusive use and that citation issuance authority for guest permit abuse be included with the proposed Council legislation.

Concern 6: Does a petition fee create an unfair barrier to a zone creation request

Discussion:

- There was a discussion that the zone creation petition process may require enough effort that it would act as a practical barrier to frivolous zone requests. This topic discussion will be continued at the next meeting.

6:10 Meeting adjourned