



Parking Technical Advisory Group

728 St. Helens; Room 16

Meeting #108 – November 3, 2016, Notes

4:10 Meeting called to order by Co-Chairs

Steph Farber, one of the co-chairs, called the meeting to order.

Eric Huseby from the City of Tacoma gave an overview of some of the things the City has been working on recently.

4:30 Public Comment

Several members of the public were present for public comment so the co-chairs moved it up on the agenda.

The first commenters were from Baroque Salon and HHJ who between them occupy and own the building on the southeast corner of 6th & St. Helens. Their clients are having challenges finding on-street parking to access their salon. Their verbal comments are summarized below. They also submitted a comprehensive report connecting their challenges to the guiding principles for the parking system:

- Existing conditions:
 - Served ~2,000 people in the last 4-6 weeks.
 - One of the few retail operations for a half block in every direction.
 - Used to have a parking lot across St. Helens, but recently lost access to that lot with retail growth in the area.
 - 6th and Court C are occupied all day with no turnover.
 - Unregulated parking on 6th between St. Helens & Broadway.
 - Unregulated parking on Court C.
 - St. Helens has 90minute limits between S. 7th & 6th.
 - Appears to be many City of Tacoma employees.
- Options evaluated:
 - Looked into purchasing or leasing at several nearby lots. There is no availability or reasonable price points.

- 90mins on St. Helens would not be enough for clients & should therefore not be expanded to 6th.
- South 7th Street has 2hr paid parking. 2 hours paid, or unpaid, would work for 6th & their clients.
- The sense was that a 2hr timelimit was the minimum needed.
- The PTAG discussed some concerns:
 - Moving straight to meters from unregulated.
 - Contiguous application of regulations (no spot regulations or ticket traps)
 - Consistency with larger system should be part of goal (Easy to use, easy to understand)
 - Requested that the commenter talk with some surrounding businesses regarding their thoughts.
 - Requested parking occupancy data for the area from the City.

The next commenters were from the Stadium Mixed Use Center near N. 2nd & Yakima:

- Not eligible for new restricted parking permit program due to mixed use center zoning.
- The area is overparked as a result of adjacent commercial uses and high density residential.
- Concerned about the impacts of additional new development, employee parking, high density residential with limited parking, and students.
- Would like criteria to allow homeowners to be the priority parker.
- PTAG took the feedback under advisement as they work to develop standards for mixed use centers.

The final commenter was from the commercial area on the northwest corner of N. 21st & Oakes:

- Not eligible for new restricted parking permit program due to commercial zoning.
- The building is a small mixed commercial/residential building.
- Existing Zone 39 parking permit was created to reserve stalls for his residential tenants.
- Zone 39 includes ~4 stalls over ~45 feet of frontage.
- Other potential parkers are the residents, customers, and employees in the immediately adjacent buildings.
- Current stalls are angle-in partially on private property and partially on public property. This has allowed for more stalls that would be available if it was parallel parking in the right-of-way.
- Felt that if the parking zone were removed, the City should buy his property.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10PM with the next meeting on 12/1.