

**NW Parking SAC** | Friendly House  
November 28, 2018 | 1737 NW 26<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. | Portland, OR 97210

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**Members in Attendance**

Dan Anderson, Nick Fenster, Jeanne Harrison, Karen Karlsson, Parker McNulty, Rick Michaelson (Chair), Thomas Ranieri, Peter Rose, Don Singer, Brent Soffey, Mark Stromme, Ron Walters

**Members Not in Attendance**

Lisa Higgins

**NW SAC Liaison**

Kathryn Doherty-Chapman

**Public in Attendance**

Ross Cornelius (Trinity Episcopal Church), Piseth Pich (Legacy), John Spencer, Melinda Wagner

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**Welcome and Public Comment:**

Pastor Melinda Wagner from First Emmanuel Church expresses concern about the meter expansion and shifting the meter hours from 9am – 7pm to 10am – 8pm. These changes would be challenging for the church and the volunteers and she shares a formal letter expressing the church's opposition to the proposed changes.

Rick asks how many volunteers/staff start shifts at 7pm.

Pastor Wagner answers that most meetings start at 6pm and currently, most of the volunteers park further north. She says that asking volunteers to pay to park every time they offer services is discouraging.

Karen recalls William Temple House being in a similar situation. She asks what the SAC did in that case.

Kathryn says she will check with Chris and Jay.

Ron comments that this is a case where the SAC can't please everyone. He understands the rationale for proposed changes to the hours and expanding the meter district and believes that it's for the greater good. He points out that, almost any time a change is made, it's not going to be better for everyone. He points out that the SAC needs to look for ways to better things for the larger community and minimize impact for people/organizations that would experience hardships from the changes. He adds that meters aren't enforced on Sundays,

this is great for the church but doesn't please some of the businesses in the area; it's a compromise.

Nick asks if the SAC has a sense on the number of people that will be impacted by the meter expansions/hours.

Pastor Wagner says that the church overflows by at least 10 cars during meeting nights. She says that the church purchased business passes and scratch offs, which they use strategically. She adds that having more access to daily scratch offs would be a big help.

Jeanne recalls speaking with a staff member from the church over the summer. She says that she informed him of the SAC's intentions to change the meter hours and expand the meter district. She let him know that his best bet was to find the off-street lots during evening hours. The member mentioned that the church was using the Miller Paint parking lot.

Melinda confirms that the church shares Miller Paint and Measure Tools parking lots on Sunday mornings and some Thursday evenings.

Mark adds that the SAC is looking for solutions and that there might be other non-resident individuals that want to come to the neighborhood to volunteer. He suggests looking at creating an income-based volunteer permit for those situations.

Rick suggests looking at that when the SAC starts discussing next year's permit rules.

Rick points out that the SAC will be voting on the meters at the December meeting and encourages Pastor Wagner to attend. He says that the SAC will take into consideration the church's concerns.

### **Timbers CTMP Draft Plan**

Rick shares that, at this time, the Timbers are not ready to present to the SAC until January or February. Ron is more up to date on the process.

Ron shares that the Timbers Oversight Committee is still trying to figure out the Comprehensive Transportation Management Plan (CTMP). We're up to the point where we're spinning our wheels. The input received from the SAC and Goose Hollow wasn't making it into the successive drafts of the CTMP. He shared his frustrations with the Timbers and the City was frustrated with the lack of progress. The stadium isn't slated to open until June at this point. The City rep called the Timbers rep and said that the current draft of the CTMP should not be shared because people won't be able to comment on it, or people will comment, and the committee won't be able to digest all the comments coming

in. The Stakeholder Oversight Committee will, with the help of the existing consultant, take greater control over the actual plan.

Don: "You made a comment that the suggestions that were being made by this body and the other transportation committees weren't making it into the planning. Why weren't they?"

Ron says he can only think of two reasons. Either the consulting firm wasn't capable of making the changes or they basically "had two masters." Perhaps the consultants were getting public input and giving it to their client and the Timbers were saying no. The Timbers don't necessarily object to the ideas but the process needs to change.

Nick asks if there's a risk of the clock running out if this doesn't get resolved before the stadium expansion is complete.

Ron says that's the city's biggest concern. There are rules about what an actual CTMP has to include and the first draft doesn't have that. That's why, rather than just spinning their wheels, the committee is honest that the process is not working. Ron feels good about the changes. The existing Stakeholder Oversight Committee (SOC) is in charge of developing the CTMP. The notion was that the Timbers wanted to hire a trained professional to create the CTMP so that it wasn't just on the volunteers. At the end of the day, in order to obtain an occupancy permit, the Timbers only need to get three yes votes from city council saying that the CTMP is adequate.

Rick concludes by encouraging the SAC members to share any suggestions or ideas regarding the Timbers with Kathryn. An idea that was brought to attention previously was potentially adding a \$1/\$2 transportation surcharge on each ticket sale and then using that money to get additional enforcement.

### **Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Development Project:**

Rick introduces Ross Cornelius from Trinity Episcopal Church. Ross will provide an update on the potential development of a parking garage in NW.

Ross shared that the church had noticed that their congregation had stopped growing and they wondered why. Surveying their members, they learned that the limited parking was one concern. The church formed a committee to look into solutions. The committee inventoried their existing assets, including several parking lots, one on NW 19<sup>th</sup> and Everett and one on Trinity Place, and one further north on Everett.

Ross was asked to put together a parking committee that could re-develop the east lot, but it was zoned RH and the committee could not come up with a way to develop the site. They were able to get a zone change and are currently CM3, which allows for a lot of other uses.

They are negotiating with Dorian Dental, which is the lot just to the east, and hope to come to an agreement. They would have  $\frac{3}{4}$  block that would be a development opportunity. They've been in front of the NW District Association several times with ideas for redevelopment and the feedback has been consistent, they'd like to see if parking can be built below ground.

They are working on a development package in partnership with other community groups in order to provide complementary services to the neighborhood. They are talking with the NW Children's Theatre and another large arts organization

They've done an analysis of services on Sundays and a mode-split analysis and they have a pretty good idea of how many riders are coming per car. They've come to the conclusion that they need somewhere between 200-250 spaces to accommodate what we they have now and anticipated growth. It would also allow them to free up the other two lots for re-development.

Russ concludes by sharing that they just got through the zone change and are stumped on what to do next. They were approached by NW Children's Theater.

Nick mentions that the Children's Theater is evaluating this new location as a potential new spot for the facility. It's a great opportunity and it's being discussed.

They've talked to the city and there are a lot of senior services that we haven't been able to find in NW. We offer a lot of services to the community. They're open to running a community center, senior services, etc. Trinity approached the city with the potential to operate a community center and senior services, if the city could help get it built. The city reflected on the idea and concluded that it could not help build a facility.

Ross adds that the church has also talked to the Timbers, and they have expressed interest in leasing whatever spaces produced during Timbers and Thorns games. It could potentially be a good place for VIP or season ticket holders. It would help, the church is challenged with an almost \$14 million cost to put all of the 200+ spots underground. They're trying to put together various sources to make it work.

It appears that there is a need for daily parking at the site. Russ believes that a garage in the SW corner of the district could service a lot of institutions in that area.

Rick points out that the amount of spaces the church plans to provide is significant and because the church's demand time is off peak from most of the neighborhood's peak, there's a lot of opportunities to figure out how to manage that garage most effectively. He reminds the members that the SAC's purview is only to advise how to use the parking and making suggestions on parking uses. The structure itself would be dealt with by the NWDA planning committee.

Ross says that the church is patient, it's a complicated deal, it will take a while. The other arts program has time, they're doing their market assessment. Children's Theater is doing the same thing.

Ron asks how far out this is, four years?

Ross says he thinks two years.

Mark says the question is, is there a way the SAC could see contributing to building a portion of a parking structure?

Ross says that he doesn't have everything figured out yet, the church is open to ideas and welcomes advice or contributions.

Ricks thinks the Supply Subcommittee should work with Russ and report back to the SAC. It's an exciting opportunity.

Dan points out that a potential funding challenge is that there's perceptions that NW Portland is relatively affluent. This may read that those who have more get more and those that don't, do not.

Don - "You're absolutely right. We had a meeting with Commissioner Fish's office, the Regional Arts Council and some others because the group of us downtown are doing an LID to fund an artistic scan around the Morrison and 10<sup>th</sup> parking garage. All we were looking for was a contribution around \$12,500 and we were all going to match it. An attorney from Fish's office said that downtown has enough art and all that money that was supposed to be spent on the parking garage, we're putting it out in Lents, downtown doesn't need any more attention. That's the reception at City Hall."

### **Wrap Around Stall Proposal and Vote**

Rick reminds the committee that a few months ago, they voted to change some of the 30-minute spaces in the neighborhood. The SAC has held off on a proposal for what to do on side streets that are metered-only and if they should be changed. Kathryn sent out the most recent proposal.

Kathryn points out that the proposal outlines spaces that are currently metered only but should be converted to meter or by permit. There's about 18 spaces that are proposed for conversion.

Mark is supportive of moving forward with the conversion. He asks about the data some of the members collected around certain portions of the neighborhood. He asks if that data was taken into consideration.

Kathryn mentions that she has not seen the data but would like to.

Karen says that she still has them and will send them to Kathryn.

Rick asks if there's a motion to adopt the wrap around conversions.

Karen makes a motion to approve.

Mark Seconds

Unanimous approval.

Rick asks about the timeline.

Kathryn answers that the timeline depends on engineer's current workload. She hopes that this will be completed in less than 3 months.

### **Open House Debrief:**

Kathryn reminds the members that NW in Motion hosted an open house a few weeks ago. 100 people attended the open house, parking didn't speak with all those that attended, but with a good portion of attendees. Kathryn created feedback forms and 14 people completed them. 70% of the people she spoke with had a Zone M parking permit and a lot of people expressed interest in the wallet. She asked if attendees felt that, since meters have been installed, parking has become easier, harder, not sure, or the same. 38% said harder, 23% easier, 23% not sure, 15% the same. Keep in mind, only 14 people responded. She asked people if the SAC was on the right track with the permit program. 50% said they were not sure. A lot of people came to the open house asking if there were any proposed changes to the program. Kathryn answered that the changes will be determined in the spring, after data is reviewed and the SAC has time to deliberate.

Regarding the meter expansion. Kathryn had heat maps that showed occupancy was high past 7pm. People were hesitant to say provide input about the meter expansion, 54% said they were neutral. 15% opposed, 31% supported it.

Ron mentions that with only 14 responses, he's hesitant to draw conclusions. Based on his experience talking to people that care about parking - having mixed responses is a huge sign of progress. To have some people that are open minded and thoughtful and some that think things are getting worse, it's inevitable.

Kathryn says she walked door to door and talked to many property owners, store owners, store managers. She hasn't hit every residential multi-family building or business yet. But most people were happy that someone was talking to them and trying to make it simpler. No one said, "don't put in meters."

Karen says she's glad to hear that Kathryn has been going door to door. She thinks the meters will be a positive thing.

Rick mentions that the members were sent a map outlining the meters locations being proposed. The SAC will be voting on the meter expansion next month. He asks the members to review it and provide feedback and questions. The next agenda will include 10 minutes for the vote.

### **New Business**

Jean mentions that she has been noticing a lot of no parking A-frames that don't look legitimate.

Kathryn suggests calling parking enforcement if anyone suspects abuse.

**Meeting adjourned.**

## Proposed new meter locations in NW Zone M- 2018

### Legend

- 30 minute Meter-only (typically at corners or on request)
- 2-hour Meter-only
- 4-hour Meter or by Permit (Zone M)
- Pay-station location

