

NW Parking SAC

Wednesday, July 20, 2016

4:00-5:30 p.m.

Friendly House

1737 NW 26th Ave.

Portland, OR 97210

Meeting Notes

Members in attendance

Elizabeth Aaby, Karen Karlsson, Rick Michaelson (Chair), Nancy Pautsch, Thomas Ranieri, Phil Selinger, Mark Stromme, and Ron Walters

Staff

Chris Armes (PBOT), Scott Cohen (PBOT), Erika Nebel (Office of Commissioner Steve Novick), Lynda Viray (PBOT)

Public in attendance

Allan Classen (NW Examiner), Zach Blott

Welcome & Public Comment

Rick called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and invited public comment.

Public Comment:

Zach Blott discussed the effects of the parking plan in his neighborhood located on 18th and Couch specifically the 30 minute short term spaces. Currently, the main issue is parking availability due to the 30 minute spaces. Rick commented and explained the purpose of the changes. Zach expressed the difficulty with the limited parking options and requested City staff survey the area to remove the 30 minute spaces. Phil commented on possibly morphing Zone K and Zone M, evaluating additional areas for more spaces, and how car share spaces should remain. Karen commented on how this request would qualify as an exception and has no objection in removing 30 minute spaces. Nancy commented on how her neighbors do not support the 30 minute spaces. Mark requested a visual aid for future requests. Ron and Rick discussed the process of one off fixes and how adjustments may need to be made twice a year. The committee agreed to have staff move forward to review this request. Chris will follow up and send an update to the committee afterwards.

Commissioner Novick Update:

Erika Nebel explained Commissioner Novick's position and decision making regarding the parking minimums. He had met with Rick and Tavo prior to the meeting and had separate meetings with Chris Smith, Tony Jordan and Margo Black. His vote was based on the following: understood more tools coming down the future, concerned about housing affordability, and concerned about more single occupancy vehicles on the road. Erika floated Commissioner's idea of restricting the number of permits

that new buildings get that would be equivalent to what minimums would be which could be effective soon until residential permit changes are implemented.

The committee provided their feedback. Karen and Rick supported the idea but discussed how more needed to be done in the NW District. The majority of the attendees (Nancy, Tom, Elizabeth, Mark, and Rick) supported Ron's counter idea which was that new buildings would get no parking permits. Ron explained how Oakland, CA successfully implemented this exact proposal in 2015 and he advocated having choices. Ron commented buildings with no parking should not be charged for parking as the market self regulates and the exceptions would be affordable housing units can be allowed permits. Phil expressed his equity concern from a renter's point of view as they would need to have an arbitrary distinction of when the building was built. Ron commented that this would not be an equity issue but rather having a choice in where you live (e.g. choosing to live in an apartment with a washer/dryer, dishwasher, gym, daycare proximity, and this should also include parking). Rick stated there are 4K parking spaces with 8K permits and a functioning system requires increasing the parking supply or reducing the number of permits. Erika will bring Ron's suggestion back to City Council as it was previously mentioned in another meeting.

TDM Update:

Scott Cohen explained a new staff member Sarah Goforth has joined Active Transportation. The TDM program has launched and 600 employers were provided a pamphlet of information (in their renewal packets) and 25 employers have expressed interest in the program. A total of 4500 residential addresses (in their renewal packets) were provided Biketown information. The NW Examiner will also be advertising Biketown. Large employer outreach will be the next step. Rick and Karen discussed the upcoming NW District events specifically Slabtown Fair (September) and National Night Out (August) and Scott can provide brochures and/or staff for these events. Biketown reported an estimated 2500 rides on their July 19th launch date and they were currently working on fixing glitches.

Scratch Off Permits:

Rick and the committee members (quorum) discussed limiting Collision Rebuilders request to purchase additional scratch off permits and agreed to defer the final decision to PBOT. Chris explained how PBOT feels strongly in having parity amongst all businesses in NW with the limit of 100 scratch off permits per year. PBOT granted Collision Rebuilders to purchase a total of 600 scratch off permits since the last meeting. Chris commented on how the scratch off permits can be used for more than one vehicle and they can also utilize the meters for additional parking. Rick also commented how parking on-street is violating a zoning code as businesses are not allowed to store cars on-street.

Parking Meters Programing for Timbers Game:

Chris discussed the complexity and difficulty in special programming for each individual date and games. Chris explained the upcoming mobile pay application which would allow paying meter and adding additional time remotely and the SAC would need to consider an interim preference for next season. Rick commented how meter feeding should only be applied to meters that are currently 2 hours. Karen commented looking at a broader sense in restrictions and payment options. Rick agreed the committee would like to discuss this agenda item further with the SAC as Chris mentioned this should be in place in March when the season starts.

New Business:

Mark requested an update on city council meeting on shared parking and the parking minimums. Mark commented on increasing the permit price and also having a tier price of permits. Erika and Chris explained this would have to go to City Council and could be included in limiting permits and increasing prices as a tool.

*Elizabeth commented on youth hostel getting the annual parking permits, one for each guest room that they have. The district needs clearly defined rules as to what constitutes an employee and a resident and what constitutes a customer. This issue is important not only for this business but also for people who are running Airbnbs out of their home. It is also relevant to the auto remodeling shop that is using day permits to park customer's cars on the street.

*Amended Meeting Notes