



City of Concord, New Hampshire

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Parking Committee Meeting

September 14, 2014

Present: Jeff Bart, General Public Representative
Allen Bennett, Council Representative
Byron Champlin, Council Representative
Mark Coen, Council Representative, Chair
Tonya Rochette, Intown Concord Representative
Brent Todd, Council Representative

Staff: Robert Mack, Traffic Engineer
Matt Walsh, Director of Redevelopment, Downtown Services & Special Projects

1. Adoption of Minutes

Tonya Rochette, moved to accept the June 16, 2014 meeting minutes. Jeff Bart, General Public Representative seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Referrals for Recommendation

a. Jon Broome: Request for no parking on Granite Avenue between North State and Prospect Streets

Matt Walsh, Director of Redevelopment, Downtown Services & Special Projects presented the committee with a request from Jon Broome, resident of Granite Avenue, asking that on-street parking be eliminated on Granite Avenue. Mr. Walsh's presentation included photographs and review of maps of the area.

Mr. Walsh explained that the crux of Mr. Broome's concern was the narrowness of Granite Avenue and challenges that circumstance creates when Mr. Broome attempts to exit his driveway. The street is approximately 16' wide. Mr. Broome also noted that the street is especially narrow during winter months due to snow banks.

Mr. Walsh also reported that he happened to meet two residents while recently walking the street who did not support Mr. Broome's request. Mr. Walsh added that those residents requested that the Parking Committee hold a public meeting about any potential changes prior to referring this issue to the City Council for an ordinance change.

The Parking Committee discussed the request. It was noted that there was no significant history of accidents on Granite Avenue. It was also noted that the conditions of Granite Avenue are very similar to other older streets throughout the City with respect to development density, lack of on-site parking, and narrowness of the travelled way.

After additional discussion, it was the consensus of the Parking Committee to recommend no changes at the present time.

b. Michael DiPietro: Request for Resident Parking Permit for Washington Street

Matt Walsh, Director of Redevelopment, Downtown Services & Special Projects presented the committee a request from Michael DiPietro, resident of 67 Washington Street, Concord, asking that the City issue resident parking permits for his household. Mr. Walsh's presentation included photographs and review of maps of the area.

Mr. Walsh reviewed the City's resident parking permit ordinance for the area near the UNH School of Law. The permit system was introduced in the early 1980s and has not been reviewed since. Mr. Walsh explained that Mr. DiPietro's residence is outside of the geographic limits of the permit program and therefore was ineligible for a permit. In order to grant Mr. DiPietro a permit, the City would need to revise the ordinance that governs the permit program in order to expand the geography to include the DiPietro residence. Mr. Walsh added that the residential permit program would be examined as part of the Strategic Parking Plan, which was currently.

The Parking Committee discussed the request. It was the consensus of the Parking Committee to recommend no changes to the resident permit program at the present time, pending the results of the forthcoming Strategic Parking Plan.

c. Wallenne Foote: Request to extend no parking on west side of High Street at Summer Street intersection (Penacook).

Matt Walsh, Director of Redevelopment, Downtown Services & Special Projects presented the committee a request from Wallenne Foote, resident of High Street in Penacook, asking that the City increase the no parking setback for the westerly side of High Street at the Summer Street intersection. Mr. Walsh's presentation included photographs and review of maps of the area.

Mr. Walsh explained that a commercial pick-up truck owned by a nearby resident has been parking at this location on a regular basis. He noted that usage of the parking space by the subject vehicle is legal. He also explained that when the vehicle is present, it has the effect of narrowing the intersection, thereby potentially causing a safety issue for those approaching High Street from the westerly end of Pleasant Street. Mr. Walsh noted that Ms. Foote had also raised concerns about the safety for school bus traffic through this intersection. However, Mr. Walsh noted that the City had not received any complaints or concerns from the Merrimack Valley School District about this location.

The Parking Committee discussed the request. It was noted that there is no significant history of accidents at this location. It was also noted that the conditions of this intersection are very similar to other older streets throughout the City. It was further

noted that the current length of the no parking setback (33') exceeds the City's current standard of 30'.

After additional discussion, it was the consensus of the Parking Committee to recommend no changes at the present time.

4. Parking Strategic Plan Update

Mr. Walsh updated the Committee on the Parking Strategic Plan. He reported that an inventory of all public and private parking spaces within the study area was recently completed, revealing that nearly 10,000 spaces are located within the 450 +/- acre study area. He explained that a utilization study would be completed in late September to better understand how these spaces are used during week days, as well as the weekend. He also discussed upcoming stakeholder meetings on September 22 and 23rd, as well as a community open house planned for October 7th at the Capitol Center for the Arts.

5. Other Business

a. Future Meeting Dates

Mr. Walsh reminded the Parking Committee of an upcoming meeting with the Strategic Planning Consultant tentatively scheduled for September 23, 2014.

b. Committee Vacancies

Mr. Walsh noted that the Committee still had several vacancies. He asked for the Committee's help in identifying potential candidates willing to serve.

c. Other Business

No Discussion.

6. Adjourn

Mr. Bennett moved to adjourn. Ms. Rochette seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew R. Walsh
Dir. of Redevelopment, Downtown Services, & Special Projects