



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Parking and Traffic Management Task Force

Wednesday, August 24, 2016

4:00 PM

City Hall
701 E. Broadway
Conference Room 1A

I. CALL TO ORDER

Karl called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Staff Present: Leah Christian, Clint Smith, Tanner Morrell, Matt Gerike, Tim Teddy, Pat Zenner, Janet Godon, Richard Stone

Members of the Public: Lee Ann Ball, Allan Moore, Katie Essing, Lucas Geisler, Caitlin Campbell

Saad Malik serving in place of Amy Wasowicz

Present: 16 - Gregory Cecil, Michael McClung, Janet Hammen, Michael Sokoff, Sarah Klaassen, John Clark, Karl Skala, Michael Trapp, Chuck Graham, Jason Patrie, Mark Stevenson, Kenny Kvam, Cindy Neagle, Deb Sheals, Katherine Lee and Annette Triplett

Absent: 1 - Amy Wasowicz

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Kenny Kvam asked if we could add to the agenda Mike Sokoff giving information as to any plans the University has for parking over the next year or two. It was decided to add that discussion before discussion on the downtown fee in lieu programs.

Karl would like to add reviewing with the Task Force the resolution laid out that put this group into being.

There was discussion as to how parking fees can be waived for members of the task force attending these meetings. Tanner said they'd make a process to waive the parking fee for task force members.

John Clark said someone has a stamp.

Karl said we would figure out the process.

Janet said for other meetings they have followed the following process: staff signs your parking slip, when you get it back then you sign it. At the attendant booth in the garage you hand that over and the sign on the clipboard provided.

Mike McClung made a motion to accept agenda as amended and Kenny Kvam gave the second.

Motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Draft Meeting Minutes 8-10-16

Attachments: [DRAFT Meeting Minutes 8-10-16](#)

Draft meeting minutes. Janet made the motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting.

Cindy gave the second.

Motion passed.

Nomination of Alternate Taskforce Recorders

Deb Sheals noted the minutes from last meeting were well done and thorough.

Leah Christian requested volunteers from the task force to assist in note taking so that members can take turns. Would like 4 people to alternate.

Annette Triplett volunteered. No other volunteers.

IV. TASKFORCE PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

Karl displayed on the screen Resolution 76-16 that brought the task force into being. He highlighted each of the 4 bullet points listed in the Resolution pertaining to the tasks assigned. He discussed those areas of focus and also mentioned the fourth, which is whether to recommend forming an ongoing parking and traffic management commission. He pointed out that this task force was formed in conjunction with the temporary freeze downtown.

Parking Needs: Downtown Houses of Worship

Attachments: [Parking Needs, Downtown Houses of Worship](#)

[First Presebyterian Activities](#)

[MUM Activities](#)

[Parking Adjacent to Downtown Houses of Worship](#)

Last week Greg Cecil, Mike and Karl met with church representatives and brainstormed on a small scale some ideas relating to the issues of concern by downtown churches. Greg led the discussion today with the task force. Greg introduced Lee Ann Ball from Calvary, and Allan Moore from 1st Pres. They have all talked about what the needs and issues are. At this point the information that had been previously provided to task force members was displayed along with the recommendations that the churches have to help with their parking problems. Further points made by Greg included that there are many activities in the churches, not only on Sundays, but also during the week. These activities bring many people to downtown. This then is further competition for parking spaces. Other challenges include: Funerals and other special occasions that churches have. These bring in a lot of people and parking is a problem. Calvary in particular doesn't have a lot of their own parking. The Methodists and Presbyterians have lots so their elderly can park there, however some churches have 3 services so parking is still an issue with them as well. Greg has noticed since the student housing has increased, there are fewer spaces available on Sunday morning. The concern is that if members can't find a place to park they might go elsewhere.

See the recommendations on the list that was supplied. There is a history of

parking on Sun. a.m. being free. Contractors have the bags on the meters for a long time. Can those bags be released sooner? Could contractors be bussed in to the work site?

Karl brought up a point that was thought of during the brainstorming session - that of providing bags to the church to bag the meters on Sundays or some arrangement where signs or curb striping is marked to signify that Sundays are off limits except to the church community.

Janet said the DLC discussed this. The bagged meters have been paid for - they are paid for by whoever gets the bag. Sunday should be a free day so we should talk about how long the bags are there.

It was discussed that there is some work done on Sundays - by subcontractors.

Tanner mentioned they don't enforce the bags on Sundays. The contractors are buying Sundays, but they are not enforced on those days.

Mike McClung - mentioned the spot has to be paid for during that time

Deb - mentioned potential liabilities

Karl - looking for some compromise or to consider a policy that would not accommodate Sundays.

McClung - thinks the contractors would be happy to not pay for that time (Sundays)

Jason - perhaps work with the contractors on a week by week basis

Karl - can we get an idea how many contractors have these bags and can there be exceptions and/or negotiations to work with the churches on Sundays.

Leah - noting that staff should work on getting above information as Karl is requesting

Matt Gerike states they have been tracking meter reservations in GIS since Aug. of last year. That information could be looked at per meter as to when it was reserved and shared at the next meeting

Further discussion as to where these particular bagged meter sites are.

Overnight storage of cars also an issue - cars are parked Sat. nights through Sundays.

Cindy brought up they are also left overnight by Lee school - signs were put up, but that didn't work well. Cindy states there must be constant enforcement. This overnight parking affects traffic in and around the school.

John Clark - mentioned something Tanner brought up at the last meeting - that there is quite a bit of parking, but it is spread out. Concerning bags for construction - concerning for liability if cars are parked in the bagged area.

Clark mentions this issue and the garages - that we need to have a group that is working on parking management issues. A group that is doing that which would be different than zoning.

Karl states we are limited in time because we need to get a draft report to council - further he agrees this needs to be done and question will be if this group continues, or a commission is set up to do it.

Clark states the issue is imperative right now. Suggest we set up a parking management group - to conceptually separate this so we can work on this variety of ideas. Karl - agreeing these are critically important issues - soon it will be time to get a report to council

Sarah - Asks about other churches . . . Sacred Heart, 1st Baptist, 1st Pres - do they

have the same concerns?

Greg - they were not part of the original group - a good question - no one is to be excluded.

McClung - a lot of the points the churches bring up are the same as the issues the businesses bring up - there is a lot feeding into each other. All types of businesses - these problems resonate through all of this.

Discussion about how to get a handle on this right away - do we know what other cities and towns have done.

Leah refers to upcoming presentation on that subject - that from her research cities manage parking based on geographic areas, not specific to institutions.

Janet - we should find out what others do.

Deb - some churches in city centers have instituted valet parking. She also makes the bigger point that it is management and it is a complicated issue.

Deb - Would it help to develop a list of issues and see if those can be done immediately - which issues need to be worked on now. Do we have existing mechanisms in place? We know of the prohibition for overnight parking. We can look at these things now

John motions to form a subcommittee to address downtown parking management issues. Who is this parking for, what is the history, what are the rules and the enforcement of the permits. See what Matt is able to generate and to come back with recommendations.

Chuck Graham gives the 2nd.

Kathy Lee brings up an alternative idea for forming subcommittees and task force structure moving forward.

Clark points out that we need to study these things as he's mentioned and then us that for the base of the MD-T.

Task Force needs to vote on motion - there is a 2nd on the floor.

Annette would like to clarify - is this for traffic management? No, Clark states, this is for parking requirements - the situation we have with our parking facilities and to manage these in the relative short term.

Annette - then you are proposing a review of existing city policies

Clark - yes, policies, practices and procedures. He heard what Deb was saying, we go around in cycles - management and parking district needs to be discussed.

Motion for a distinct subcommittee to do the above as motioned above - vote by show of hands.

Aye - 6, Nay - 8

Motion failed

Kathy Lee presented an idea she has for moving forward with the structure of this task force. She discussed the following:

Take the first 3 objectives from R76-16 (Section I - Purposes):

- A. A review and evaluation of best practices related to parking and traffic management in other cities . . .
- B. Study and evaluation of the SGA recommended actions to address parking policies and strategies . . .
- C. Review and evaluation of parking requirements and options for parking

requirement waivers within M-DT District . . .

Form 3 Subcommittees - one for each of the purposes above

Each of the above 3 subcommittees would consider two main areas:

1. Stakeholders - to include, but not limited to, businesses - employees and patrons, residents/developers, ped/transit - vision zero, etc.
2. 2016-2019 Columbia Strategic plan - economy, social equity, public safety, infrastructure (transit/green space), operational excellence.

Meeting Format: The full Task Force meets monthly

First 30 min. of meeting is sub-committee

Last hour of meeting with full Task Force

Subcommittees meet monthly for one hour

Karl mentions Kathy can make a motion to adopt this kind of structure - to get this issue of parking in the context of each item, and that needs to be done. We may have to prioritize what tasks these groups get into as the UDC is coming up very quickly - later, more time can be spent analyzing other things.

Kathy makes the motion to adopt format as given above.

Janet gives the 2nd.

Deb mentions to bring options up, that we are all over the place and we need a nice way to give it structure. Subcommittees meet the same day as the main committee. If we do this then, to get to Karl's point - identify the critical issues - and this should be on the next agenda.

Karl proposes identifying the critical issues - they should be on the next agenda (UDC). We will at least be laying groundwork so folks can begin to have the conversation.

Leah mentions Aaron Fields coming to speak at next meeting.

It's noted that the list of critical issues can be prepared and sent to task force members. There is to be no discussion of the list until meeting time. Staff will send the list to task force members.

Vote is taken on the motion for task force structure above.

Aye 8 - Nay - 6

Motion passed.

For Aaron Field's visit - estimating 20 min. talk and 10 min. for Q & A.

Karl - we will go through some of these issues we shared with each other and see which groups will be established at the same time. The rest of the hour will be how to form the subcommittees and then get into the UDC stuff.

Saad asks can when things need to be to Leah. Leah sates desired by the Monday prior to the meeting at the latest.

Karl suggests tacking on another 30 min. to meetings. Leah discusses space issues and arrangements that will need to be made for longer time and subcommittees. Saad asks if we can agree for 2 hours for the next meeting only and then evaluate. Agreed.

Leah - asking for clarification of what is expected from staff.

Karl - wants a handle on the bagging issue.

Deb - suggests can the churches buy bags? Lee Ann Ball says that is cost prohibitive

Mark Stevenson - discusses the rule against 24 hour street parking. It is not

enforced - suggestion - police often say they need more police because they can't get it all done. Since parking enforcement is a lower requirement could other city employees be hired to handle the parking instead of a full officer? Someone with less training, certification, etc. at a lower pay.

Karl - if it involves a tow then the police have to be involved.

Tanner - Parking utility operates Mon - Sat 0800 - 1900 and they do tow during those hours. They don't want to tow on Sun. a.m. when the person thought they had all weekend. If the church got bags, Tanner said they would have to be set out Sat. afternoons by 1500 so people wouldn't have the expectancy of thinking they could be there longer.

Sarah - parking utility doesn't enforce in adjacent neighborhoods - that is only the police. In her neighborhood she has to call the police.

Karl - parking permits handled by the utility

Tanner - if church is near a business and that business generates a lot of people on a Saturday evening that spot would need to be cleared by 1900.

Discussion on marking spots with time constraints. Kathy mentions some spots are marked that way for taxi stands already.

Janet mentions that churches could organize their members to do valet parking.

There are tons of parking, and volunteers can valet people.

Deb mentions to be careful of one sided solutions - consider those who have had too much to drink. They should not be encouraged to take their cars home on Saturday nights.

McClung - mentions considering transit solutions, discussion of little golf carts

Karl - encouraging members to think of these innovative, cheaper solutions.

Kenny asks about the university policy on Sundays. Mike S. says it is not enforced on Sundays.

Kathy makes the motion to adopt format as given above.

Janet gives the 2nd. Aye 8 – Nay – 6

Motion passed.

V. STAFF PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

Downtown fee in lieu & parking management programs

Leah reviews the reason for Fee in lieu programs and how other cities have chosen to manage them. She also reviews the costs to build parking spaces in Columbia, which is close to the national average of 18k per space. Clint Smith reviews the specifics of how the City of Naperville manages its fee in lieu system.

Leah's ends presentation with the Next Decisions for Task Force - consider time line and parking and recommendations for downtown and the fact that if we want to move forward with a program like Fee in Lieu we will need to implement better systems for data management, because a Fee in Lieu system would basically make the City the only entity responsible for managing downtown parking. Options for improving data management systems would be the funding of the LPR system, annual parking audits and community surveys. Drew Brooks, who will be taking over parking management, can explain to the group how he's used data

management within the transit system and how that can be used for parking management.

Karl - states this slide (presented) will be made available to task force members.

Cindy - regarding the LPR system - if we have the information provided to us in advance we can read ahead and then come prepared to discuss. We will have a chance to digest the information in advance of the meeting.

Mike Trapp - these are good recommendations - We need to paint the car while driving down the road. We need to factor in the MD-T recommendations - what is known and how to inform council of these ideas.

Chuck mentions that the payment in lieu would work in a place like Clayton, where there is one entity, but not necessarily here. Columbia has University controls, city controls, private controls - how do you merge them all. The cities sited for the payment in lieu are not major university cities. Also, we have the giant student housing.

Mike notes that Davis is a college town

Karl points out that university towns are different

John - met with Clint and Leah earlier. Noted that Naperville (as studied on slide presentation) is a business, commercial center. That is not Columbia. We also have the north central Columbia neighborhood so we are much more than Naperville. He is not opposed to more garages, but that would take a lot of thinking to make sure that it doesn't devastate the neighbors - as an alternative consider traffic demand management. In lieu could work if it would pay for parking enforcement and parking programs.

VI. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

Another note John made to Karl - answering an earlier question Karl had about reasons to not vote to structure the next meetings as was approved - John expressed concern that each member would have to pick one subcommittee to serve on - even if that member wanted to be a part of more than one.

Next meeting agreed to be 2 hours in length assuming space is available. Staff will check. We are meeting in Council Chambers next meeting.

Mark asked about the status of the Ameren UE lot on Orr Street - could that be a parking garage & solve some problems.

Mike T - the city manager has authorized a formalized public process for that, however, Ameren is still cleaning up to get it ready for sale.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1730.

Members of the public may attend any open meeting. For requests for accommodations related to disability, please call 573-874-7214. In order to assist staff in making the appropriate arrangements for your accommodation, please make your request as far in advance of the posted meeting date as possible.

