



MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN PARKING ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday, May 26, 10:00 AM
TELECONFERENCE MEETING ONLY

10:03 AM - CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Anshen, Casillas, Fitzpatrick, Roush, Talen

ABSENT: Smith, Verunni

GERNERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. [Approval of Downtown Parking Advisory Commission Minutes from May 12, 2021](#)

D. King, Parking Coordinator

CONSENT CALENDAR ROLL CALL VOTE: Motioned by Commissioner Talen, seconded by Commissioner Roush and unanimously passed to postpone approval of minutes until next meeting for revisions to minutes.

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN:

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. [Senior Permits](#)

Commander Davis provided an overview on the current status of the senior permit program with options for the Commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jan Albin

WRITTEN PUBLIC COMMENT: Elizabeth Schumann, Jeffrey Munks, Donald and Priscilla Timmerman, Linda Colwell, Olivia Madrid, Linda Midkiff, Sally Reynolds

ROLL CALL VOTE: Motioned by Commission Anshen, seconded by Commissioner Talen and unanimously approved to pause current senior permit program at current limit of 694 permits under current terms and conditions until expired. Commission will meet on June 9, 2021 to discuss what commission requests from staff and Dixon and will reconvene in November 2021 to discuss future permits with data provided by staff and Dixon.

AYES: 5

NOES: 0

ABSTAIN:

COUNCILMEMEBER REPORT

3. [Councilmember Hamon Update](#)

Councilmember Hamon was not present at meeting.

ADJOURNMENT of the May 26, 2021 Downtown Parking Advisory Commission meeting at 11:29 AM. Motioned by Commissioner Talen, seconded by Commissioner Roush, and passed unanimously by voice vote to adjourn to the next Downtown Parking Advisory Commission meeting on Wednesday June 9, 2021 at 9:00 AM.

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL OR A PERMANENT PART OF THE RECORDS UNTIL APPROVED BY THE DOWNTOWN PARKING ADVISORY COMMISSION AT A FUTURE REGULAR MEETING.

Submitted by:

Donna King, Parking Coordinator
Approved:

DRAFT

Downtown Parking Advisory Commission 05-26-21 Public Comments:

From: Elizabeth Schumann <elizinca@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 1:24 PM
To: Parking <Parking@prcity.com>
Subject: Proposed changes to the Senior Parking Program

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

I strongly request that the Paso Robles City Council re-examine the purpose and intent of the Senior Parking Program.

One would hope that the purpose and intent is to provide a benefit to Senior aged **residents** of Paso Robles and encourage them to patronize local businesses again. Yes, I know, it is difficult for the Council to lean away from the usual Tourists first focus.

I have read through the proposed changes and find some to have **merit** and others that **do not**:

- A. Change senior permits terms and conditions to include senior permit parking only on Tuesdays and recommend a Downtown program to merchants for a senior discount day on Tuesdays. **If the selling of hundreds of senior permits (more than there are parking spaces for) has caused problems when parking on any day of the week, how will narrowing down the ability to park on only one day help? That would encourage the hundreds of seniors with permits all to come on the same day.**
- b. Change the expiration date of all permits to December 31, 2021. **The current permits were purchased for a full year. To shorten the time frame of existing permits is basically stealing. Going forward, a change to a shorter time period would be agreeable.**
- c. Confirm all permit fees and charges are non-refundable and fees will not be prorated for partial periods.
- d. Limit sales of senior permits to full-time residents of the City of Paso Robles only, requiring proof of residency. **This should have been the rule from the get-go. Expanding to North County residents would be okay with me too.**
- e. Require proof of vehicle ownership to the applicant in the application process, consistent with parking industry standards for permit programs.

f. Limit the total number of permits per address to two. Personally, I am okay with one per household.

g. Exclude downtown employees from obtaining a senior parking permit. This is a Senior Parking Program to encourage patronage of local businesses, not an employee parking program. Note: this will **exclude** City Council members and Paso Robles city employees from obtaining a parking permit.

In addition to the recommendations above, I suggest:

1. The city should not approve ANY new businesses or housing complexes without sufficient parking. Hotels should provide enough spaces for at least one car per room, PLUS spaces for the number of employees working at any given time.

2. Coordinate the Senior Parking Permit process with the Senior Center using volunteers. This would lessen the time spent by city personnel. Have permit applicants go to the Senior Center to apply in person. Changing to an in-person application process could help discourage non-residents.

Elizabeth Schumann

5475 Deer Creek Way

From: Jeffrey Munks <jeffmunks@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, May 13, 2021 10:10 AM

To: Parking <Parking@prcity.com>

Subject: Revision to Comments

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

Paso Robles City Council and Staff,

Please replace my original email, sent at 9:41AM this date, with the following, which I have edited and included additional comments. Thank you.

Paso Robles City Council and Staff,

I write to thank you for your efforts to create a senior parking program and to offer a series of suggestions regarding how you might revamp the program so that it provides a meaningful benefit to area seniors while still contributing revenues to the City.

1. Honor the transactions you have already made with 400+ seniors who participated in good faith and paid \$5 for a pass that was to be contractually valid from April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022. Issue no more passes under the current program.

2. Terminate the contract you have with a consultant and write off the sunk cost associated with a plan that appears to me to have cost you both money and grief. Commit to a course of setting reasonable expectations and then exceeding them rather than setting unreasonably high expectations and then failing to meet them.

3. Solicit pro bono assistance from the many and diverse (discipline) engineers, public administrators, software developers and other professionals who have retired to the North County and would be willing to help the City devise and implement a plan that meets your requirements.

4. As an example, why not offer a senior discount that is similar to what many consumer product companies provide. You could offer a discount of 10 to 20% off the regular hourly fee for any time incurred after the two-hour grace period. Such a program could work as follows:

A. Have a locally retired software engineer (or a Cal Poly faculty member or graduate student) write an API that allows you to install a scanner at the public counter in the Police Department. Seniors could present their valid driver's license (proof of age and residence address) and a valid vehicle registration in their name. After visually inspecting the ID, the desk officer could allow them to use the scanner to input both documents and the into the parking control system, eliminating the need for the desk officer to do data entry. The API would be a simple data mapping utility, indexing the required export fields against the existing parking control system's input fields.

B. Seniors would park downtown and enter their license plate into a kiosk. They would get the first two hours of parking free just like everyone else. When the senior has concluded their business and is ready to depart downtown they can simply leave if they were parked for two hours or less. If they stayed more than two hours, they can key their license plate into the kiosk and their extra time will be charged at the discounted rate.

C. If a parking enforcement officer scans the license plate of a vehicle that has not been entered into the system (via a kiosk) and the vehicle is registered into the senior discount program, the resulting citation could be issued as a friendly reminder with no charge. All subsequent violations associated with that vehicle could be ticketed but discounted 10 to 20% with "Senior Discount" noted on the citation. That way, seniors get a break on regular parking fees, a warning for their first violation, and a break on any subsequent violations and the City still earns revenue.

Best regards,

jeff

Jeffrey J. Munks
805.221.5379 office
831.236.4617 mobile
jeffmunks@gmail.com

From: Diane <ptimmerman@charter.net>

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 7:52 AM

To: Parking <Parking@prcity.com>

Subject: Possible Senior Parking Revisions - We are 78 and 79 years of age. My husband born in SLO has lived in Paso Robles for 50+ years; I moved here in 1981.

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

Possible Senior Parking Revisions - We are 78 and 79 years of age. My husband born in SLO has lived in Paso Robles for 50+ years; I moved here in 1981.

Forty years in the same home on 12th Street. Forty years to age in place and not get around like we used to!!!

Forty years of voting in Paso Robles City elections.

Please **Do Not** undo a wonderful "Senior Parking Program" - we enjoy that it is in place for our comfort and convenience.

Thank you for your attention to this request

Donald & Priscilla "Dianne" Timmerman
ptimmerman@charter.net
dontimmerman@charter.net
Preferred - (H) 805-238-3802

Fax 805-238-1722

From: Linda Colwell <lcolwell@charter.net>
Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 8:11 AM
To: Parking <Parking@prcity.com>
Cc: Council <Council@prcity.com>; John Hamon <JHamon@prcity.com>
Subject: Parking Commission Meeting 5/26

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

I would appreciate a review of my comments before the May 26th Parking Commission meeting.

A senior has to find an available parking spot just like the general public. Therefore, a senior permit does not restrict availability to the general public.

Dixon Company is making assumptions on loss of revenue. There would not be loss of revenue unless you can guarantee the parking space that senior is occupying would be filled at the same time by a paying user.

There is also the assumption that every time a senior uses a parking space, they would occupy the space beyond the 2 hour free parking enjoyed by all.

In the case of the parklets, they occupy 69 prime parking spaces 24/7 . I would think if that is not a problem then senior parking privileges should not be an issue.

Notice the word “privileges”. The employee permit is paid for monthly. A percentage of space available is part of that agreement. A permit holder has reasonable expectations of being able to park in their permitted space. I can not park in their space even if it is empty.

The senior permit does not carry that reasonable expectation so it is more of a privilege.

If you were to increase the cost of a senior permit, then you would have to have the same restrictions/benefits as the employee permit.

Any discussion of expanding parking to accommodate permanent parklets is completely unfair to other businesses. Instead of having the expected parking in front of their businesses, those spaces would be filled by the downtown overflow.

I would like to believe my business to downtown is welcome any day of the week.

The integrity of your program and of this city is in question. The senior permit was applied for in good faith. To do less than honor the cities’ commitment is to not serve the community as a whole.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Colwell

Paso Robles

-----Original Message-----

From: Olivia Madrid <oliviamadrid@msn.com>

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 8:27 AM

To: Parking <Parking@prcity.com>

Subject: Senior Parking Permits

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

My husband and I moved and retired to Paso Robles from SF Bay Area and found our dream home downtown in 2019. Although we have the walk ability to enjoy downtown we were happy and the first to get our \$5.00 dollar yearly senior parking permits to use if needed.

At the time it seemed too good to be true! Now, with all the discussions and meetings to change the rules with senior parking, I guess it is.

My suggestion, keep the senior parking as first implemented and see how it goes. Then, after a year bring it up for discussion.

For my husband and I it was just an added perk of relocating here. We are not that computer knowledgeable to be fussing with smartphones and pay meters.

Oh, and by the way we do shop and eat downtown and spend lots of money, without the Senior parking permit, we'll think twice about it.

Thank you.

Regards,
Olivia Madrid
2025 Olive Street
Paso Robles, CA.

From: Linda Midkiff <lmidkiff105@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, May 23, 2021 8:08 PM

To: Council <Council@prcity.com>

Subject: Senior Parking Permits

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

Hello, all.

I recognize that you have a dilemma in that the response to the offer of senior parking permits has been much greater than you anticipated. However, I think it is inappropriate for you to renege on the deal you made with seniors who have already paid for the annual permit. Telling them now that the amount they paid is insufficient is not okay. Keep in mind that you all voted on the fee. It's completely inappropriate to change it after it's been paid! Likewise, telling seniors that their permit only applies to certain days is also not right. It's not what the City Council agreed to. I frankly feel you all made your bed, and you now need to lie in it.

For the record, I do hold senior permits for my two vehicles. (Clearly I won't have them both downtown at the same time.) Also for the record, I have continued to limit my time downtown to the usual two free hours on any given day. I want to make it clear that I'm not making the above arguments for my own benefit but for the benefit of those who have paid for the permits that were offered.

You all can't decide now to be dishonest and disingenuous. While you can certainly change the permit options once the current period ends (next March), you can't back out on your deal once you've committed to it and publicly voted on it.

--

Linda Midkiff

REALTOR® | LIC #01414635

RE/MAX Parkside Real Estate

711 12TH STREET | PASO ROBLES, CA 93446

Office Lic. # 01421338

C: 805.459.2445 | Lmidkiff105@gmail.com



From: Sally Reynolds <sallyreynolds532@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 11:12 AM

To: Parking <Parking@prcity.com>

Subject: May 26 Agenda Comment

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

The following are **oppositions** to the options recommended.

a. Seniors make up 50% of Paso's population.. The downtown belongs to everyone so do not think you can tell

seniors can only go downtown Tuesdays and Wednesdays. As I am a senior myself, I resent this.

c. If many seniors could not afford \$30.00 for a yearly pass, what sense having a 8 month pass for \$45.00.make????

You cannot restrict seniors from using parking passes only 8 months out of the year. Seniors will go downtown if they want and when they

want and when time permits. Downtown belongs to everyone.

I .A \$30.00 senior parking permit was too much so why are you suggesting a \$60.00 permit?????.

These three options are clear indications this committee does not value seniors and wants to put the elder community in a box of less

importance than the younger population. Taxpayers are all equal. They pay the same and should be treated the same.

Sally Reynolds

805-237-8524 Home

408-858-0114 Cell
