

**COMMENTS RECEIVED VIA EMAIL DURING PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE PERIOD
May 2017**

Comment #1

From: Ken Egan [<mailto:kenegan@bendbroadband.com>]
Sent: Saturday, May 06, 2017 7:45 PM
To: ParkingStudyShared <parkingstudy@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: Parking Study Inquiry

one recommendation—vehicles over a certain length cannot use our angled parking spots—too many “trucks” are jutting into the driving lanes.

Also, Bend streets are in need of a redesign. The streets that exist were fine when the town was 20,000 people, but they are not adequate today, and certainly will not handle future traffic.

Comment #2

From: GAVIN LESLIE [<mailto:gavin.leslie@bendbroadband.com>]
Sent: Saturday, May 06, 2017 1:34 PM
To: Katherine Montgomery <kmontgomery@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: Parking Strategy for Downtown Bend - Time to take a step back?

Basically a suggestion to consider parking as a symptom of a flawed approach to urban transportation rather than a problem to be solved in itself - 'building a more elaborate infrastructure of roads and parking facilities only encourages more of the same. We feed the beast instead of taming it.'

Also submitted to the Bend Bulletin, this week.

Gavin Leslie - Bend OR 97703
201-370-4904

Comment #3

From: Barbara Schwanke [<mailto:bws8183@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 11:45 AM
To: Katherine Montgomery <kmontgomery@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: Re: Community Open House: Share your input on Downtown Bend Parking Strategies

Hello.....

Please share with those appropriate for the upcoming meeting Thursday, May 11, 2017.

We have owned commercial property in downtown Bend since mid., 1090s. While it is fabulous the the downtown area has retained and regained it vitality as a small urban core to Bend, parking remains a crucial ingredient in this continuing.

Our viewpoint and experiences both as commercial building owners, frequent users of downtown parking , rest on the following points.

For the downtown area to remain a thriving urban core it requires mixed use of Work, shop, live occupancy . Parking is a vital ingredient of this equation if the downtown users and owners are to be able to sustain a thriving downtown over the long term.

Our property is on the corner of Bond and Greenwood. While we paid huge development fees at the time of rebuilding , in 2005-06, afterward we were not given the PROMISED allotted or reserved parking spaces for our tenants in the THEN new parking structure.

Parking issues have continued at an ever increasing rate to impact our ability to get tenants for the building and for those tenants to have clients also visit each of their offices. The downtown Brother Jons Alehouse also complains of inadequate parking in the area for their Customers.

As you well know often many , most all, retail employees or wait staff employees use the street parking and jockey with each other to move cars during a shift as needed to avoid ticketing every season of the year! THIS HAS TO STOP ! PLEASE !

When downtown becomes a hassle to visit, due to parking issues, retail client use will and has begun to decline. I have seen this in many communities who neglected this issue due to a short term vision of planning.

When owner, and users clientele refuse to be bothered with the hassle of shopping, dining, or being a client of a downtown businesses the spiral of downturn within the urban core begins.

Our recommendations are based upon what we have seen work is similar sized downtown areas and what we feel would work after discussing the heated mater with our tenants, and other retail owners and users.

1. Guaranteed and subsidized parking spaces in the covered garage, or at the nearest leasable lot, for Full and part time employees of a down town business or its owners.
2. Paid numbered meters for all mainstream downtown streets with 2 hour max. Or to start immediately a measure to heavily ticket employees who rotate cars among 2 hour spaces.

3. Planning for development and leasing of adjacent parking appropriate land sites for subsidized monthly rental of spaces by owners, employees, at a discounted rate....not just for employees with a \$15 or lower wage.

4 An electric shuttle bus service for the downtown during all events of a specific size, holiday or venue. Shuttle could be from a official public location not being used on a weekend, or a parking garage. During street fairs, marathons, concerts, holidaysetc. bus is partially paid for by donation, sponsors advertising banners, etc. (or it is paid for by event venue organizers.)

5. Resorts (sunriver)be required to offer Uber or similar shuttles to the downtown 3-4 times per day.

6. Owners of downtown properties be given priority of RESERVED subsidized/ discounted parking use in garage or closest nearby affiliated lot for their primary signing tenants, and primary employees . This was what was promised in writing at the time of issuing the development permits and in all the original measures to proceed with the downtown garage build out.

!!!!!!! #6 is a crucial element to retaining mixed use business vitality downtown. We were promised this was to be addressed 10 years ago,

Paid development fees for the structure, yet long term parking fees in the garage still mount up to \$600 per employee, per year.

A small business in the downtown may average 5-6 employees or more,

Thus \$ per month 300, or close to \$ 3600 or more in parking permits.

This is a significant overhead for most of these businesses.....and it is not a pass thru salary issue.

****At the VERY least, you need to abolish the allowance of downtown employees to rotate their cars throughout their immediate area of employment. This is damaging the ability of offices to conduct business in the downtown with their clients who need to come in efficiently for 1-2 hour appts.

We loose prospective tenants due to this parking problem, eating establishments do as well. As a consumer.....I will not go downtown to a business if I think parking is a hassle during the dayI'm not alone in that...it does and will continue to erode at the commerce not just of retail but of all the businesses. Especially in the busier Summer months when all the businesses need to make up for seasonal lows.

Barbara Schwanke
Owner the Bond LLC

"❁"

Comment #4

From: Stephanie [mailto:oscooley@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 8:01 AM
To: Katherine Montgomery <kmontgomery@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: Downtown Parking

I used to work downtown and fortunately the owner of the business paid for parking spaces in the lot behind our building. Since we worked alone during non-busy times during the year it was a comfort to walk outside the door and get into your car safely. We never used the public parking spaces.

I believe a huge concern that needs to be addressed is parking spaces used by large or long vehicles. Extended cab trucks and long SUVs should be required to park elsewhere. A line should be placed at the length of a normal car length and if a larger or longer vehicle parks there it should be cited. There is barely enough room for the two lanes of traffic to make it down the road let alone a bicyclist. People have to swerve into the other lane to get by many of the long trucks. It is a very dangerous situation including dealing with tourists popping out into traffic to cross the road. Please remedy this. The other day I noticed a large camper van with its front wheels on top of the sidewalk and the rear was still in the traffic lane. It makes it very difficult for someone backing out of a parking space to see behind or around that vehicle. Again, please remedy this situation, it is a hazard. Yes, customers first but with reasonable and safe parking.

Thank you,
Stephanie Cooley

Comment #5

From: Wendy Knight [mailto:wnkdesignstudio@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 10:27 AM
To: Katherine Montgomery <kmontgomery@bendoregon.gov>
Cc: CityManagerShared <citymanager@bendoregon.gov>; ParkingStudyShared <parkingstudy@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: Comments on Downtown parking plan

Hi Kathy,
Thank you for your involvement in the parking decisions and strategies that staff has presented. I'm sorry I could not have been at the meeting yesterday, but had a conflict with the time.

It is critical that the entire Drake Park Historic District be included in the strategic parking and plan.

The area of study and implementation excludes the 400 and 500 blocks of Congress and State Street and for certain these streets will be impacted by increased parking if they are not added to the area plan for parking limitations. It's just too easy for parking to shift one block if the other nearby blocks have time limits applied.

While some of the strategies and implementation seem like they will work, I do not endorse the removal of the 2 hour parking over time. Old habits will reoccur and newcomers to the Bend area ("Entrepreneurs" flocking to our town for free services) will clog our streets again. Also it is unclear who will be allowed to have permits: Only residents of the neighborhood? Or non-residents also? And did the study discover who is parking for longer periods? Is it workers downtown, RVs/vans/passenger cars staying for extended periods, tourists, City staff? It should be mandatory that all City staff park in the parking garage, freeing up more spaces closer to downtown, and keeping those worker's vehicles out of nearby neighborhoods.

Please note that the study also does not refer to or understand the circulation of parking for the services offered at the Family Kitchen. "Fairy Path" is a pedestrian only continuation of Idaho and the "Entrepreneurs" will almost assuredly park (as they already do) even more consistently on Congress and/or State and walk to access the Family Kitchen. The Drake Park Historic District already feels the pressure of this group, and it will only get worse.

It is more important than ever to protect The Drake Park Historic District and the downtown core. We do not want to become an afflicted inner city where committed families are moving to the periphery of town for refuge. Please ensure that the ENTIRE Drake Park Historic District is included for the parking plan and let me know when one or more of these strategies will be put into place (did I read 48 months??). The downtown neighborhoods have endured for over 10 years— it's time to make a change.

Thank you for your time,
Wendy Knight

Comment #6

From: Barbara Jericiau [mailto:momjericiau@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2017 11:58 AM
To: Katherine Montgomery <kmontgomery@bendoregon.gov>
Subject: Parking in Bend

Perhaps a free small shuttle bus to continually run around down town to move people.