



*****DRAFT*****

**Parking & Transportation Committee meeting minutes
February 22, 2017 at 9:00am
549 Congress St.**

Board members Present: Kim Volk (Aurora Financial), Phil Haughey (MHR Management), Sarah Martin (Bar of Chocolate Cafe), Anastasia Contos (Top of the Old Port Parking) on the phone

Others: John Peverada (City of Portland Parking Division), Todd Dominski (East Brown Cow), Megan Doane (Portland Stage Co), Dawn Tully (volunteer)

Staff present: Casey Gilbert, Amy Geren

Minute 1. Kim Volk opened the meeting, welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.

Minute 2. Review and approve January 25, 2017 minutes: Phil Haughey made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Sarah Martin seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Minute 3. John Peverada indicated that Nell Donaldson has been encouraging the consultants to move swiftly with the draft report. As of yet, no one has seen the initial supply & demand numbers.

Minute 4. Park & Work and Park & Shop updates:

- The Park & Shop program is continuing its one-year suspension. The two City garages are the only garages that still accept Park & Work stamps. Perhaps the City should take over the program? Do we want to continue the program? It was originally designed for low-wage part-time workers, which is hard to track.
- Amy reported that approximately 12 businesses use the program, the major users being CVS, Opportunity Alliance and Head Games.
- The City garages sell about \$4,000 in Park & Work per garage. There is only one cheap lot: Angela's Acres on Commercial Street (\$5/day). In front of Rufus Deering there is free on-street parking. Currently, there is not a need to meter the spaces as there are not a lot of businesses nearby, according to John Peverada.
- A question was raised as to whether businesses have 'switched' over to Park & Work after the Park & Shop suspension. Amy reported that a few businesses (Longfellow Books and Head Games) have seen an increase in the purchase of Park & Work.
- Kim asked if the City garages are full/have a waiting list? John said yes.
- Phil asked if we should research the Park & Work program to see if it is effective and/or being abused. Kim stated that our advocacy letter recommends that the City helps Portland Downtown find solutions for low-wage earners to get affordable parking.
- Kim would like a report at the next meeting of users of the Park & Work Program. Amy has indicated that Portland Downtown has a form that businesses have to sign to indicate that they are buying books for their workers. Kim has asked that a packet be prepared for the next meeting with all information and policies related to Park & Work (policies, users, spreadsheets, forms, etc).
- Upgrades to City technology will make tickets/stickers obsolete. It may be better to get ahead of the curve. Finding a way to provide discounts via the City's new app might be helpful. John says many parking complaints come to him, even if it is not in regards to a City garage.

- At the March and April meetings, Kim would like to review Park & Shop and Park & Work programs, so that the committee can bring a recommendation to the board by May.

Minute 5. Update on technology upgrade by City of Portland Parking Department

John Peverada stated that the contract is waiting to be signed/executed by the Passport App company. Phil asked what the logistics are to execute the technology upgrade. John says that they will get the hand-held devices first and then once that has been rolled-out and tested, they will roll-out the mobile payments. In other cities, people using mobile payments varies from 5% to 50% of all users. Portsmouth rolled out the app in their garages first and then they moved on to on-street parking.

Minute 6. Reallocation of PEDPIP funds: The City did not need the full \$15,000 that Portland Downtown had allocated to the parking study. As such, we have \$7,500 to use towards another project. Kim asked the committee what they would like to do with the funds? Shall we earmark it until a need is identified?

- Possible ideas to use the money:
 - Sponsorship of Build Maine (conference with Don Shoup as keynote speaker)
 - Multi-modal campaign
 - Signage
 - Implementable ideas that might arise from the parking study that we could help fund.

Sarah made a motion to hold off on allocating funds. The motion was seconded.

Minute 7. Moving Park & Shop funds in next FY 990: If the program is canceled, the funds will be moved at that time.

Minute 8. Other business:

- Having guest speakers will enhance the conversation. They bring added insight.
- Casey shared the multi-modal transportation video with the committee. Casey added that we cannot move forward with the Shoup project until the City provides a draft report from the parking consultant.
- Kim reminded the committee of the upcoming MEREDA breakfast that will focus on parking. The breakfast is scheduled for March 14th at the Regency Hotel from 7:30am to 9:00am.
- The committee will invite Sam Herr to discuss updates on the bike share program at a future meeting
- John Peverada asked the committee if they had heard of the new development at Fisherman's Wharf
- Sarah Martin asked J. Peverada a question about having her residential sticker in a rental car. Will she be ticketed?

Next meeting: Wednesday March 22 at 9:00am

Kim adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Casey Gilbert, Recorder