



**Parking & Transportation Committee  
Meeting Agenda  
July 27, 2016 9:00 – 10:00AM  
Portland Downtown office, 549 Congress St**

**PD Board Members:**

Kim Volk, Chair  
Phil Haughey, Co-Chair  
Jeff Packard  
Sarah Martin

**AGENDA:**

1. Introductions
2. Review and approve June 22, 2016 meeting minutes
3. Discuss Park & Shop program suspension, update on signage refacing
4. Review Response by City to Parking Advocacy Letter
5. Casey to discuss Transportation Management Authority concept
6. Discuss City's technological updates to parking meters/ticketing and impact on PD
7. Other business
8. **Next meeting:** Wednesday August 24, 9:00am



**Parking & Transportation Committee meeting minutes  
June 22, 2016 at 9:00am  
549 Congress St.**

**Board members Present:** Kim Volk, Phil Haughey, Sarah Martin

**Others:** Megan Doane (Portland Stage), Asher Chappell (Unified Parking), John Peverada (City Parking Div.), Todd Dominsky (East Brown Cow), Doran Lovell (Planned Parenthood), Alanna York (Head Games Salon), Bruce Hyman (City Planning Dept), Ellen Kanner (Dobra Tea)

**Staff present:** Casey Gilbert, Taffy Eaton, Amy Geren

**Minute 1.** Kim opened the meeting welcomed everyone

**Minute 2.** Review and approve May 25, 2016 minutes: Phil made a motion to approve the minutes pending the addition of the notes on Carl Eppich's presentation, Sarah seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Note: following the May meeting, Carl provided the link to the website and the full report of the PACTS 2040 Transportation Plan: <http://www.pactsplan.org/long-range-transportation-planning/destination-2040-plan-draft/>

**Minute 3.** Park & Shop feedback after notifying top users: Kim reminded the group that this is a one-year suspension and we are collecting feedback from users while this committee works on a new program.

- Amy went through her Powerpoint which covered: feedback, the suspension progress, parking signs, new signs will be blue with a white "P" with an arrow (duplication will be eliminated), showed a mock-up of the sign regarding the suspension to be posted at all of the garages. Twelve garages have been participating and all Park & Shop signage will be removed.
- Alanna York spoke about the problem this will cause her at Head Games. She feels it will make downtown unwelcome to shoppers and her salon users.
- John offered the validation program at the Spring Street garage where she will pay for her customers' parking.
- Doran Lovell spoke about moving the Planned Parenthood office downtown near the METRO hub in order for their clients to use the bus but it was not as successful as they had hoped, so they started to use the Park & Shop program. The garage validation program could work for them but it will need to be fine-tuned in order to track client time spent in their office (that Planned Parenthood would pay for) versus time a client might stay parked in the garage while having lunch or visiting other downtown businesses.
- Casey reminded the group that the decision to suspend the Park & Shop program was made by our 19 Board of Directors following months of thoughtful and thorough research by a sub-committee. All this feedback will be considered by this committee as we work closely with stakeholders to identify the best way forward.

- Ellen Kanner asked about recent issues with parking attendants. The distance from curb one can park and pay-meter tickets being visible by the parking attendant from a distance are both creating issues for customers. John explained about the need for both. There needs to be better communications surrounding parking in Portland. In Portsmouth there is an app called Easy Park. A person pays \$40 for a pass and you enter the time you need in it and you can park anywhere. John responded by saying that Portland can't use an app until Portland has hand held ticket writers which is coming soon.
- Doran waited 4 months for a monthly space in the Elm Street Garage. Asher said that the Public Market Garage and the Chestnut Street Garage both have available monthly parking for \$120.00.

**Minute 4.** Parking Advocacy Letter to the City:

- Casey has attended Economic Development Committee meetings and is looking forward to receiving recommendations from City staff. Casey described the work that went into writing the letter and that Portland Downtown is willing to work with the City on improvements to parking and transportation in downtown. We need to strike a balance between using cars and alternate modes of transportation.
- Bruce echoed that the City is actively working on a response to the Parking Advocacy Letter. A wayfinding study was conducted and drafted but has not yet been fully implemented. It will be rolled out slowly, building upon the letter.
- Kim thanked Bruce for the City being willing to partner with Portland Downtown on improvements.
- There are public forums on transportation and parking as part of the Comprehensive Plan update on June 29<sup>th</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>. Bruce will send Casey information to distribute.

**Minute 5.** Other business –

- Megan spoke about Portland Stage taking away their own customized parking voucher program. The complaints surrounding parking increased, but people are still coming to the theatre and subscriptions are building again now.
- John mentioned that when there's an event downtown such as Old Port Festival, people will find parking.
- Spaces in Pay and Display areas will not be striped
- Unified has "Gem carts" (6-seater golf cart type vehicles) driving around town, moving people around for free. Flag them down and they will take you anywhere downtown.

**Next meeting:** Wednesday July 28<sup>th</sup>, 9:00am

Kim adjourned the meeting at 10:15 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Taffy Eaton, Recorder