



# City of Duluth

411 West First Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

## Minutes

### Parking Commission.

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Friday, April 4, 2025

7:30 AM

Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City Hall

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#### ROLL CALL

##### Members Present

- Mike Mayou
- Andrew Paszak
- Branden Robinson, President
- Brandon Van Tassel, Vice President
- Robert Woods
- Mark Bauer, Ex Officio

##### Members Absent

- Antonio Davis

##### Guests Present

- James Gittemeier, Senior Transportation Planner – City of Duluth
- Joe Jurewicz, Senior Traffic Engineer – City of Duluth
- Victor Lund, Traffic Engineer – St. Louis County

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City of Duluth Parking Services Manager Mark Bauer presented the March 2025 Duluth Parking Commission meeting minutes for approval. Commission Vice President Brandon Van Tassel motioned that the minutes be approved. Commissioner Robert Woods seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0 (Commissioner Mike Mayou had not yet arrived).

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments during the initial public comments period.

#### PROPOSAL TO RECONFIGURE ON-STREET PARKING ON 40TH AVENUE WEST

Mr. Bauer introduced a proposal to reconfigure on-street parking on 40th Avenue West, in relation to an upcoming St. Louis County road redevelopment project. County Traffic Engineer Victor Lund presented the redevelopment plan, highlighting the associated proposed parking changes. He described the project scope, which included the installation of a mini-roundabout at the intersection of 40th Avenue West and Grand Avenue, installation of a middle turn lane, and changes to on-street parking from Grand Avenue to the railroad crossing north of West 8th Street. He described a County-led parking utilization study that had been employed to inform the parking configuration change proposal, which

indicated maximum parking utilization closest to Grand Avenue and lighter use northward. He stated that the proposal currently in front of the Parking Commission was to eliminate on-street parking on 40th Avenue West from Grand Avenue to 4th Street, which he stated was necessary for the operations of the planned mini-roundabout. Mr. Lund stated that parking would be largely retained from 4th Street to 8th Street, with the elimination of two total stalls to accommodate planned bumpouts. He stated that on-street parking would be removed from 8th Street to the railroad crossing, adding that current utilization was low and there appeared to be ample off-street parking available for area residents. Commissioner Woods inquired into what accommodations would be made to mitigate the parking loss for residents near Grand Avenue who would be losing all on-street parking. Mr. Lund stated that there would only be a one-to-two-stall loss of parking on Grand Avenue associated with the project, implying that residents could park in that area. Mr. Lund also stated that the County was in the process of discussion regarding possible acquisition of nearby off-street parcels that could be utilized for public parking. Commission President Branden Robinson inquired whether residents on the 300 North block of 40th Avenue West had been consulted regarding the proposed on-street parking loss in their area. Mr. Lund stated that he would not know what to do with any negative data received, as it would not affect the planned installation of the roundabout. Commissioner Andrew Paszak inquired whether there had been any direct public opposition to the project. Mr. Lund stated that he had received negative feedback regarding the planned roundabout but not specifically regarding parking. Commissioner Van Tassel inquired whether on-street parking could be added back to the 300 North block from the alley to 4th Street. Mr. Lund stated that this was not possible due to the project design. Commissioner Mayou motioned that the proposal be approved. Commissioner Van Tassel seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

## PROPOSAL TO AFFIRM EXISTING PARKING CONFIGURATION ON RAILROAD STREET

Mr. Bauer introduced a proposal, brought forward by the City's engineering division, to formally affirm the existing parking configuration on Railroad Street from Canal Park Drive to a point slightly beyond South 5th Avenue West. City of Duluth Senior Traffic Engineer Joe Jurewicz described the associated road redevelopment project and noted that the State of Minnesota, who was involved in the project, required formal affirmation that parking was prohibited along the specified section of the roadway. Commissioner Mayou inquired into the scope of the planned project. Mr. Jurewicz stated that there would be a mill-and-overlay, as well as improvements to the curbs and other adjacent structures. Commissioner Woods motioned that proposal be approved. Commissioner Van Tassel seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

## OFF-STREET PARKING UPDATE

Mr. Bauer provided an update on off-street parking operations. He stated that reporting continued to illustrate the success of the installation of new access control systems at the three primary downtown parking facilities and that the two most recently-converted ramps would receive deep-cleaning and fresh paint in the coming weeks.

## ON-STREET PARKING UPDATE

Mr. Bauer stated that there were no significant updates regarding on-street parking.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOLLOW-UP**

There were no additional public comments.