



City of Duluth

411 West First Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Minutes

Parking Commission.

Friday, June 7, 2024

7:30 AM

Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City Hall

ROLL CALL

Members Present

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

Members Absent

- Antonio Davis
- Brandon Van Tassel

Guests Present

- Ari Eilola, Duluth Operations Manager – Interstate Parking Company
- Mike Rasmusson, Duluth resident

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City of Duluth Parking Services Manager Mark Bauer presented the May 2024 Duluth Parking Commission meeting minutes for approval. Commission Vice President Branden Robinson motioned that the minutes be approved as presented. Commissioner Mike Mayou seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments during the initial Public Comments period.

ON-STREET ACCESSIBLE PARKING ZONE REQUESTS

Mr. Bauer presented two on-street accessible parking zone requests for approval. He stated that he had visited the sites and consulted with the Commission on Disabilities and the applicants. He recommended that both requests be approved. Commissioner Robinson motioned that the request for 2322 West 8th Street be approved. Commission President Robert Woods seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0. Commissioner Robinson motioned that the request for 2508 West 2nd Street be approved. Commissioner Mayou seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

PROPOSAL TO IMPLEMENT A TEN-MINUTE DROP-OFF ZONE AT 1823 EAST SUPERIOR STREET

Mr. Bauer introduced a proposal to create a ten-minute drop-off zone at 1823 East Superior Street. He stated that the zone would serve the short-term parking needs of the new adjacent business, Wired Whisker, as well as those of other nearby stakeholders. He stated that the business owner has discussed the new zone with neighbors and that there was no opposition to its creation. Commissioner Mayou motioned that the proposal be approved. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

PROPOSAL TO CONVERT A METER STALL AT 32 EAST 1ST STREET TO AN EXTENSION OF THE ADJACENT LOADING ZONE

Mr. Bauer introduced a proposal to convert a meter stall at 32 East 1st Street to an extension of the existing adjacent loading zone. He stated that the Women's Clinic, who had initiated the request, was the primary affected stakeholder, and he added that the zone is adjacent to a large public parking structure. Mr. Bauer stated that the zone would better serve the regular needs of the building. Commissioner Mayou motioned that the proposal be approved. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH PUBLIC PARKING RATES AT NEW EASTERN MEDICAL DISTRICT PARKING FACILITY

Mr. Bauer introduced a proposal to establish new public parking rates for the new eastern Medical District parking facility, tentatively named Medical District East Public Ramp. He stated that the rates reflected those in the surrounding area and the structure of rates in the other City parking facilities. Commissioner Robinson inquired into the associated operating budget for the new facility. Mr. Bauer stated that details on the proposed budget would be presented to the Commission in a future meeting. Commissioner Mayou motioned that the recommended rates package be approved. Commissioner Woods seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

OFF-STREET PARKING UPDATE

Interstate Parking Company Duluth Operations Manager Ari Eilola provided an update on off-street parking. He stated that the installation of the new pedestrian access control system at Hart District Ramp was complete and operating smoothly. He added that the number of security incidents at the facility had correspondingly decreased and that customers seemed happy with the results. Mr. Eilola stated that pigeon mitigation and cleaning in the ramp was nearly complete. He stated that installation of the access control systems at Technology Village Ramp and Medical District Ramp was estimated to be complete in October 2024. He stated that the fee enforcement season in Canal Park had begun and was running smoothly, and he added that preparations were underway for the upcoming Grandma's Marathon. Commissioner Mayou inquired whether improvements had been made regarding the clear posting of parking fees and easy identification of parking staff, following up on a public concern from last year's marathon. Mr. Eilola stated that proper signage would be in place and all staff clearly identifiable and in uniform. He stated that proper

accessible door mechanisms would soon be installed at Medical District Ramp. He stated that additional accessible parking stalls would soon be added at Civic Center Ramp and that signage would be added at all parking facilities that would clearly indicate that parkers with displayed accessible parking credentials would be allowed to park for up to four hours at no charge, per current parking guidelines. Mr. Bauer presented an update on calls for service at the three primary downtown public parking facilities. Duluth resident Mike Rasmusson stated that recent customer calls for assistance at Technology Village Ramp had produced fast, effective responses. Mr. Rasmusson inquired whether Interstate Parking had ticketing authority in the public parking facilities. Mr. Bauer stated that Interstate did, indeed, have ticketing authority.

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 comments from the public.