

Duluth Parking Commission
Twenty-Eighth Meeting
7:30 a.m. Friday, September 19, 2014
City Council Chambers, Duluth City Hall

Members Present

- Craig Chilcote, Vice President
- Andy Goldfine
- Linda Krug
- Steve LaFlamme, President
- Andy McDonald
- Matthew Kennedy, Ex Officio

Members Absent

- Mary L. Cameron
- John Simpson

Guests Present

- Mark Bauer, Parking Operations Specialist – City of Duluth
- Karl Goon and Charlotte Deckman-Goon, City of Duluth residents

Approval of 8/15/14 meeting minutes

Vice President Craig Chilcote motioned to approve the minutes without change. Commissioner Linda Krug seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Proposal to convert the ADA parking space on 19½ Avenue West to a resident permit space

Matthew Kennedy described a proposal to convert the current ADA on-street parking space adjacent to 420 North 19½ Avenue West to a resident permit parking space. He explained that the City of Duluth had previously, as part of a street reconstruction, effectively eliminated parking for the residents of this address, Karl Goon and Charlotte Deckman-Goon. There is no off-street parking associated with the property. Mr. Kennedy explained that a temporary remedy had previously been put in place by creating the current ADA parking space on the street, since one of the residents lives with accessibility challenges. Mark Bauer explained that the reason for the requested change from the space's current configuration to a resident permit parking space is to restore the property to its previous salable state, since the Goons had expressed that they had been thwarted in their attempts to sell it. Mr. and Mrs. Goon explained that they previously had discussed the purchase of a portion of an adjoining piece of property from their neighbor for potential use as off-street parking, but this discussion was not successful. Commission President Steve LaFlamme motioned to approve the proposal to convert the parking space to a resident permit space and clarified that this new configuration should remain even after the potential sale of the property. Commissioner Krug seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Proposal to prohibit parking on both sides of Chester Way

Matthew Kennedy described a proposal to prohibit parking on both sides of Chester Way. He stated that the proposal originated from a complaint from a resident that vehicles were regularly being parked illegally on both sides of the road and within 7 feet of driveways, as well as within 20 feet of the intersections, which she stated was a potential safety issue. Mr. Bauer stated that he had performed a study of the road and found it to be too narrow to safely allow parking on either side of the road, which varies from 14 to 21 feet in width. He noted that both the City of Duluth Fire Department and the City of Duluth Traffic Engineering Division agreed with this assessment. Commissioner Andy McDonald motioned that the proposal to prohibit parking be approved. Commissioner Krug seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Accessible parking signage requests

Mr. Bauer described requests to add accessible parking signage at four different addresses: 1602 East 2nd Street (Temple Israel), 310 North 9th Avenue West, 2002 Lakeview Drive, and 2203 West 2nd Street. He stated that the first of the four requests had been reviewed and was recommended by the city parking division and that the other three had been reviewed and were recommended by the traffic engineering division. Commissioner Krug motioned to approve all four recommendations. Commissioner LaFlamme seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Proposal to extend Canal Park parking rate enforcement through October 19

Mr. Kennedy described a proposal to extend the parking rate enforcement in Canal Park through Sunday, October 19, at Lake Place Lot and Sculptured Wall Lot and through Saturday, October 18, along both South Lake Avenue and Canal Park Drive. He explained that the Duluth Economic Development Authority executive director had approved an extension to the enforcement of the DEDA parking lots through October 19 due to the corresponding “MEA Weekend,” which is expected to cause a summer season-like number of visitors to the area. Mr. Kennedy stated that DEDA also is considering returning to paid parking during the offseason for certain large events, such as UMD Bulldogs hockey games at Amsoil Arena. Commissioner LaFlamme stated that he would be in favor of this proposal with the provision that the payment of on-street parking not be actively enforced during the extended time period, and he motioned that the proposal to extend the rate period be approved with the non-ticketing on-street provision. Vice President Chilcote seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

On-street parking update

Mr. Bauer provided an update on the status of the installation timeline of four new Digital Payment Technologies multi-space pay stations for Canal Park Drive and the purchase of the three existing pay stations on the 300 block of West Superior Street, as well as information regarding the training of City of Duluth staff for maintenance, collections, and administration of all seven machines. Mr. Bauer also noted that new, improved parking signage had been installed on the 300 block of West Superior Street and that the public feedback so far was positive.

2015 parking fund budget report

Mr. Kennedy described the proposed 2015 parking fund budget, referring to a summary included in the packets provided to each commissioner. He offered that the commissioners could review the details included in the summary at their convenience and that the parking division would follow up with further information at the next parking commission meeting.

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Bauer, CPP
Parking Operations Specialist

Matthew Kennedy, CPP
Parking Commission Secretary