

DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 23, 2017 – 3:00 PM – Third Floor Meeting Room, Faribault City Hall

Present:		Absent:
Brian Anderson	Nort Johnson	Julie Fakler
Travis Block	Deanna Kuennen	Gary Lazarz
Kim Clausen	Janna Viscomi	John Sheesley
Jennifer Denmark	Ann Vohs	
Larry Harn	David Wanberg	
Abdullahi Hussein		

Welcome and Introductions

Committee members introduced themselves.

Approval of February 23, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The Downtown Parking Committee approved the February 23, 2017 Meeting Minutes.

Approval of the Downtown Parking Committee Project Statements

David Wanberg, City Planner, reviewed the project statements that he had sent to Committee members earlier in February for their review and revision. He stated that based on the comments received, he refined the project statements and sent the refined statements to the Committee for their “final” review. He asked if the Committee if they had any “final” recommendations related to the project statements. Hearing no additional comments, the Committee accepted the project statements as presented.

Data Needed to Address the Project Statements

Wanberg facilitated discussion related to the data needed to address the project statements. The Committee noted the need for data about the beliefs and practices of the various constituents in the downtown: customers/visitors, employers, and residents. For example, the Committee expressed a need to know where downtown residents are parking and how far away they would be willing to park if they had an assigned off-street parking space.

The Committee discussed the possibility of conducting a survey of the various downtown constituents. Wanberg briefly presented a survey that Cedar Falls, Iowa used in conducting their downtown parking study. He noted that Faribault likely does not have the budget or staff to conduct a similar survey or prepare a similar downtown parking study. The Committee asked Wanberg to provide the Committee with a copy of the Cedar Falls study and other pertinent

studies. Nort Johnson volunteered to set-up a dropbox site for Committee members to download the studies. (Please note that Wanberg will email the Committee links to the studies and we will place those links on the City's website).

Committee members suggested that if we were to conduct a survey, we could divide the downtown into sectors and assign each Committee member a sector. Then, each Committee member could be responsible for distributing and collecting surveys in their assigned sector. Committee members would also make general observations about parking in the sectors.

Overview of 2006 Parking Study

Wanberg provided a brief overview of the 2006 Downtown Faribault Parking Study. He noted that Gregg Roemhildt, the GIS Specialist, is in the process of updating the parking maps. (Gregg will attend the March 23 Downtown Parking Committee meeting to provide the Committee with an update of the maps.)

Wanberg noted the need to balance the costs and benefits of completely updating the 2006 study. We may need to make reasonable assumptions without spending a lot of time and money on conducting a detailed inventory and analysis.

Other Opportunities to Understand the Current Parking Situation

Wanberg briefly reviewed some other opportunities to understand the parking situation. He stated Gregg Roemhildt could have prepare an app that would allow people to map parking opportunities and areas of concerns. We could also consider listening sessions or online surveys as a quick and inexpensive way to gather additional information. Wanberg noted that he would meet with Roemhildt. We would finalize our approach at our next Committee meeting.

Next Meeting and Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for:

Thursday, March 23, 2017

3:00-5:00 PM

THIRD Floor Meeting Room, City Hall