



# DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE

## REGULAR MEETING

### MINUTES

Thursday, September 8, 2016  
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
630 Garden Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

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1) **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:30 a.m.

2) **ROLL CALL**

DPC MEMBERS

Trey Pinner (Chair)  
Matt LaBrie (Vice-Chair)  
Edward France  
Gene McKnight  
Tracy Pfautch  
Sean Pratt  
Kate Schwab

Attendance

Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Absent

CITY STAFF PRESENT :

Rob Dayton, Principal Transportation Planner  
Victor Garza, Parking /TMP Superintendent  
Michele DeCant, Public Works Business Manager  
Roy Forney, Acting Parking Supervisor  
Dion Tait, Parking Supervisor  
Laura Yanez, Project Engineer  
Teri Green, Associate Transportation Planner  
Brandon Beaudette, Administrative Analyst  
Malcolm Hamilton, Administrative Assistant

LIAISONS PRESENT:

Randy Rowse, City Council

OTHERS PRESENT:

3) **CHANGES TO AGENDA**

None.

4) **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Diane Barrickman, mesa resident and home owner, distributed a packet of information and referenced a letter dated September 8, 2016 to the Parking Committee and City Council. The letter requests that a portion of curb on the 1200 Block of Cliff Drive be painted red to reduce traffic accidents and prevent RV's from extending into the bike path and obstructing the view of South bound traffic.

Rob Dayton, Principal Transportation Planner, thanked Ms. Barrickman for her comments and noted that the Downtown Parking Committee does not have jurisdiction over this matter. Mr. Dayton said he would deliver the comments to the city's Traffic Engineer.

5) **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JULY 21, 2016**

**Motion:** To approve the minutes from the special meeting of July 21, 2016.

**Made By:** Matt LaBrie **Second:** Edward France

**Discussion:**

**Vote:** Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 (Schwab)

6) **DOWNTOWN PARKING FINANCIAL PLAN**

Malcolm Hamilton, Administrative Assistant, presented an overview of Downtown Parking financial planning, including estimated impacts from minimum wage increases.

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Chair Pinner asked when the next round of union negotiations will get underway. Malcolm Hamilton said the negotiations will begin in December 2016 and January 2017.

Victor Garza, Parking Superintendent, discussed some of the options to mitigate the impacts to Downtown Parking's Operating and Capital Budgets.

Vice-Chair LaBrie asked if staff has an internal deadline for evaluating different operational changes and deciding which paths to pursue. Rob Dayton said staff will be analyzing the different options to be ready in Fiscal Year 2018. Mr. Dayton said the Downtown-Waterfront Shuttle discussion will coincide with the budget development process. Chair Pinner said the Facilities Condition Assessment Report will also influence financial planning.

Committee Member France said the options presented seem to be marginal changes that may not change the overall picture. Mr. France said it would be helpful for the Finance Subcommittee to look 10 years out and gauge the full revenue potential for the parking system, which may include a change to the hourly parking rate.

Councilmember Rowse said the hourly parking rate increase in 2006 did not produce the expected revenues due to elasticity effects. Mr. Rowse said the Downtown Parking Committee is uniquely qualified to assess options for the Downtown Parking Program due to the business experience of its members. Mr. Rowse said increasing competition from nearby shopping centers and attractions is proving to be a challenge for Downtown businesses.

### 7) DOWNTOWN PARKING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

Teri Green, Associate Transportation Planner, distributed a status report on capital improvement projects.

Vice-Chair LaBrie asked for an update on the Lot 3 Paseo Improvements Project. Ms. Green said staff hired an architect for design services and is working with the City's Environmental Services Division to address the trash enclosure issues in the Paseo. Ms. Green said staff is also seeking direction from the City Attorney's Office on the encroachment agreement for the existing trash enclosures.

Vice-Chair LaBrie said he would like to continue discussing mid-block crossings that connect with the downtown paseos. Mr. Dayton said the city's Traffic Engineer would need to study the safest and easiest way to install a mid-block crossing. Mr. Dayton said funding is also a challenge. There are less expensive options, which traditionally means bringing the sidewalk out so pedestrians are visible to motorists. Mr. Dayton said that people would most likely continue to illegally cross Figueroa Street regardless of where the mid-block crossing would be positioned.

Committee Member McKnight commented that he does not see many people use the Lot 3 Paseo and the funds may be better spent improving the pedestrian path of travel near the entrance lane.

Chair Pinner said the improved landscaping and design of the Lot 3 Paseo may encourage people to utilize it more often. Mr. Garza said the drivers for this project are safety and cleanliness. Mr. McKnight added that pedestrians also cross near the Lot 3 entrance lane to connect with the paseo that leads into Lot 4.

Committee Member France said he is interested in comparing the costs of the different options for pedestrian walkways.

### 8) PROGRAM UPDATES

#### Relocation of SCE Transformers on Downtown Parking Property

Victor Garza said Southern California Edison (SCE) is working to improve the reliability of downtown transformers by moving them above ground. SCE has identified several locations in the Downtown Parking lots that may require the removal of parking spaces.

Chair Pinner asked if these transformers would need new easements to be placed in the parking lots. Mr. Garza said easements and/or encroachments would be necessary. Mr. Pinner asked if the transformers would be serving downtown businesses, not just the parking lots. Mr. Garza said that is correct.

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Committee Member McKnight asked if the city will receive compensation from SCE for the use of the city's property. Mr. Dayton said it will be a part of the negotiations.

### City Council Direction for Downtown-Waterfront Shuttle Assessment

Rob Dayton said staff will be recommending to have the DPC as the lead committee on vetting options for the Downtown-Waterfront Shuttle (Shuttle) service.

Vice-Chair LaBrie said the decisions about the Shuttle service will have long-term impacts on the downtown area and he would like the committee and community to have time to provide input. Mr. LaBrie asked if there is a time table for purchasing new shuttles. Mr. Dayton said MTD has already purchased 12 new shuttles that will be able to service the existing downtown route as well as other routes. Mr. Dayton said it is important to begin the discussion with the community and City Council to receive feedback and input.

- Motion:**
- A. That it is the Downtown Parking Committee's desire to see adequate stakeholder engagement in the Downtown-Waterfront Shuttle contract renewal discussions; and
  - B. The Downtown Parking Committee be given the primary responsibility for advising Council on the negotiation of the MTD Shuttle contract.

**Made By:** Matt LaBrie **Second:** Gene McKnight

**Discussion:**

**Vote:** Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 (Schwab)

### 9) SUBMISSION OF PROGRAM REPORTS

Staff submitted the Quarterly Occupancy Survey comparing 2016 to 2015 for the months of April through June.

### 10) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.