



# DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE

## REGULAR MEETING

### MINUTES

Thursday, April 13, 2017  
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room  
630 Garden Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

---

1) **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:36 AM

2) **ROLL CALL**

DPC MEMBERS

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

Attendance

Present  
Present  
Absent  
Present  
Present  
Present  
Present

CITY STAFF PRESENT

Rob Dayton, Transportation Planning and Parking Manager  
Victor Garza, Parking /TMP Superintendent

Roy Forney, Parking Supervisor  
Dion Tait, Parking Supervisor

Teri Green, Associate Transportation Planner  
Sue Gray Community Development Business Manager

Chris Rickerd, Administrative Assistant

LIAISONS PRESENT

Randy Rowse, City Council

OTHERS PRESENT

Kristine Schwarz, New Beginnings Counseling Center

3) **CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Item 7, Safe Parking Agreement, moved before Item 6.

4) **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

5) **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2017**

**Motion:** To approve minutes with change to item 6.

**Made By:** 1<sup>st</sup> Matt LaBrie 2<sup>nd</sup> Trey Pinner

**Discussion:** N/A

**Vote:** Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

# DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2017

Page - 2 -

## 6) LOT 3 PASEO PROJECT

*Rob Dayton, Transportation Planning and Parking Manager*, explained that in future conversations, each City Lot and Garage will be referred to by its name instead of a lot number.

Rob Dayton gave background about the Lot 3 Paseo Project talking about the purpose of the Paseo and current use. Paseos throughout the Downtown area serve as a connection to and from the parking lots. He then cited different photos showing the Paseo, the Lot 3 entrance lane, and pedestrian traffic crossing Figueroa to and from the Lot 3 entrance. Pedestrian traffic was tallied three different periods throughout each of three separate days. These numbers backed up what the photos illustrated, that the majority of people cross at the easiest / shortest area which was to and from the vehicle entrance rather than the Paseo. The Lot 3 Paseo Project arrived from a thought that if the Paseo was more inviting to walk through, more pedestrians would use it rather than walking through the entrance lane. Staff has realized that trying to force traffic through an area that is not the shortest distance or noticeable from most parking areas may not be the best idea. Mr. Dayton referenced how colleges put in grass areas prior to walkways then take note of the dead grass when putting in the walkway. Staff is leaning toward a solution that would be to move the vehicle entrance over far enough to build an adjacent walkway midblock where the majority of pedestrian traffic now exists. In addition, there is a Paseo across Figueroa Street leading to Lot 4 and juxtaposition to the Lot 3 Entrance that could be worked into the project. Minor aesthetic improvements to the current Lot 3 Paseo, including removal of the columns, may still take place. Selling the Paseo doesn't seem ideal at this time.

Committee Member Pfautch, questioned possible timing issues that could be caused by a mid-block crosswalk. Rob Dayton responded that the allotted cross time would be based on the slowest possible scenario. Making sure the crossing distance is as short as possible is critical to reducing red light time for vehicles. It would likely be set up as pedestrian on demand crossing. The cross cycle will be 20 seconds long, similar to State street. A yellow flashing crosswalk is also an option but would depend on HLC approval. A flashing red, Hawk Signal, could also be possible.

Vice Chair LaBrie talked about the importance looking at on-street parking on Figueroa as we define the scope of the project. If we take away parking stalls in Lot 3, to compensate, we should look at updating on-street curb painting and adding additional on-street parking areas. Mr. LaBrie also commented on the potential of a future outdoor dining setup in the Lot 3 Paseo.

Committee Member Pratt commented that even if the walkway is moved, something should still be done to clean up the Paseo so it isn't an eyesore.

Committee Member Janeway suggested that placement of a crosswalk may exacerbate traffic especially during lunch hour on Figueroa.

*Victor Garza, Parking /TMP Superintendent* added that they had been talking in house about possibly swapping the entrance and exit locations at Lot 3 to alleviate traffic at both Figueroa and Chapala. Everything is on the table.

*Committee Member Schwab* brought up the possibility of MTD needing a larger Transit Center.

**Motion:** To redirect the focus from the Current Paseo Project to the development of a walkway and mid-block crossing adjacent to the Lot 3 entrance.

**Made By:** 1<sup>st</sup> Trey Pinner 2<sup>nd</sup> Matt LaBrie

**Discussion:** N/A

**Vote:** Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

## DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2017

Page - 3 -

### 7) SAFE PARKING AGREEMENT

*Victor Garza* introduced *Kristine Schwarz*, Executive Director of the New Beginnings Counseling Center. The Safe Parking Program started in 2007 and has been a very successful program with minimal issues or complaints.

*Kristine Schwarz*, *New Beginnings Counseling Center*, expressed appreciation for the support from City staff and the Downtown Parking Committee. The program repurposes existing community resources and uses them to address the critical needs of the homeless living in their vehicles. Those typically involved in the program are those living in their vehicles trying to keep their families together and those who have pets that have been displaced from their homes for multiple reasons. The people in the program are grateful to have somewhere safe to go at night.

*Victor Garza* stated that the City currently allows 10 spaces at the Cota Lot, 10 spaces at the Carrillo Lot, and 5 space at the Garden Lot. Daytime parking will be funded separately potentially adding 2 spaces at the Carrillo Lot.

*Rob Dayton* explained that most vehicles involved in the Safe Parking Program are oversized and will be affected by the new oversized vehicle policy.

*Victor Garza* commented that New Beginnings has done a good job of client intake and self-policing. Clients have done a good job of following the rules, including maintaining quiet times in the lots.

*Sue Gray Community Development Business Manager* said that the City and New Beginnings are checking into private properties, churches, businesses, City parking lots and County properties to place program members for daytime parking of their oversized vehicles.

*Chair Pinner* asked whether a parker from a day lot would then be parked in a night lot. If there is a time limit for New Beginning Members. *Kristine Schwarz*, answered that there isn't a timeline or science to how long people take part in the program. There are many different variables that affect how long a member stays in the program. The program is focused on transitioning clients into permanent housing.

*Vice Chair LaBrie* asked if program members are known to be panhandling during the day. *Kristine Schwarz*, answered that most the people that they see have regular jobs, are not chronically homeless and are higher functioning than many seen panhandling.

*Committee Member Schwab* asked about data pertaining to members who are from Santa Barbara and those from other cities who may potentially relocate to benefit from Santa Barbara's resources. *Kristine Schwarz* answered that the majority are local residents down on their luck.

*Victor Garza* confirmed *Chair Pinner's* question that the Agreement with New Beginnings has a termination clause.

*Committee Member Schwab* stated that the program has evolved so much in last 10 years and that it is easily supported.

*Vice Chair LaBrie* shared that he is encouraged about the information and how successful the program is. *Mr. LaBrie* stressed the importance that users are not living off community that they move toward a sustainable future.

**Motion:** To recommend sending the Safe Parking License Agreement to Council for approval

**Made By:** 1<sup>st</sup> Kate Schwab 2<sup>nd</sup> Matt LaBrie

DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2017

Page - 4 -

**Discussion:** N/A

**Vote:** Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

**8) APPROVAL OF PBIA ANNUAL REPORT**

*Rob Dayton* discussed how last year when PBIA was discussed with DPC, Staff had received advice from the Attorney’s Office that the PBIA would need to be updated to conform to industry standards, more specifically in regards to Proposition 218 which relates to assessing the Non-Profits. It was determined recently that Prop 218 was not an issue since the PBIA is a business based assessment, not property based. Staff recommends that Non Profits be included in the PBIA Assessment for FY19. The PBIA report for FY18 will be a status quo assessment.

*Vice Chair LaBrie* asked why an Engineer’s report is needed if the methodology already exists. *Victor Garza* stated that it would be an opportunity to refresh the original report and also take a look at the methodology to address those who are not being assessed.

*Rob Dayton* stated that Staff will be able to come back next month to update the Committee on next steps and whether a new Engineer’s report will be needed.

*Vice Chair LaBrie* doesn’t want the cost of the engineering report to cloud the primary argument.

*Council Member Rowse* commented that the discussion regarding assessing the non-profits PBIA has been going on for years.

*Chair Pinner* commented on how things could be changing in the future. The increase in online sales could greatly affect the businesses on State Street.

*Victor Garza* stated that Staff is asking DPC to approve a status quo PBIA report for FY2018 and also asking for direction on additional language to include in the council report. The re-evaluation process could take more than one year to complete.

*Chair Pinner* said that he felt non-profits benefit from the City Parking Lots and should be included in the PBIA assessments.

**Motion:** To accept the FY2018 PBIA report and support the inclusion of non-profits in the FY2019 PBIA assessment.

**Made By:** 1<sup>st</sup> Matt LaBrie 2<sup>nd</sup> Kate Schwab

**Discussion:** N/A

**Vote:** Yeas: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

**9) PROGRAM UPDATES**

**A. ZIPCAR**

Item not covered. To be moved to the May meeting.

DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 9, 2017

Page - 5 -

**10) ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 AM