



## **Downtown Parking and Transportation Management Plan**

### **Public Engagement Summary**

The Downtown Parking team (BBA, CEDO, DPW) has lead two-year outreach effort that has included attending over 60 meetings with various stakeholders in the community including:

- Parking Advisory Committee (8 meetings)
- Business community
- Arts and culture groups
- Faith community
- Bike and pedestrian community
- Accessibility Committee
- Police Commission
- Public Works Commission
- City Council and the Transportation, Energy, Utilities Committee
- Neighborhood Planning Assemblies
- Church Street Marketplace Commission

In addition to the Parking Advisory Committee meetings, here is a bulleted summary of the most recent engagement activities:

- November 19, 2014: Public Forum, City Hall
- February 18-21, 2015: BTV Mall Design Workshops, with 4 breakout sessions on parking and transportation, including discussion of integration with downtown parking
- April 14, 2015: Public Forum, First Congregational Church
- May 27, 2015: Church Street Marketplace Commission
- July 14, 2015: Bike/pedestrian community
- July 15, 2015: DPW Commission
- July 2015: Members of several churches in the faith community said that summer is a difficult time to gather, and agreed to pass along the Executive Summary and full plan to their members for feedback and input.
- August 2015: Accessibility Committee could not accommodate the team at a meeting, but agreed to pass along Executive Summary and full parking plan and reach out with any comments or questions
- August 5, 2015: Arts community through BCA and the Flynn
- August 10, 2015: City Council update
- Late August 2015: Included parking plan information in CEDO's Buzz
- Oct. 16 – Nov. 15, 2015: Public comment period on draft plan
- October 20, 2015: Police Commission

- October 26, 2015: City Council
- October 27, 2015: Planning Commission
- October 28, 2015: Public Works Commission
- October 28, 2015: Ward 4/7 NPA
- November 3, 2015: Public Forum, City Hall
- November 5, 2015: Parks Commission
- November 5, 2015: Ward 6 NPA
- November 11, 2015: Ward 1/8 NPA
- November 18, 2015: Church St. Marketplace Commission
- November 19, 2015: Ward 5 NPA
- December 10, 2015: Ward 2/3 NPA

### **November 3, 2015 Downtown Parking Plan Public Meeting Recap and Public Comments**

*City Hall, Contois Auditorium, 7:00pm-9:30pm*

Chapin Spencer, Director of the Department of Public Works started off the evening with some opening remarks. He thanked everyone for their participation in the process thus far, and gave some background on the initiative. He briefly explained the timeline for adoption of the three parking plans happening concurrently and encouraged people to visit [www.parkburlington.com](http://www.parkburlington.com) for more information and to offer feedback on the plans through the website.

Andy Hill of Desman Design Management then gave a presentation on the plan in its current form. Andy talked about the recommendations Desman has made based on their data collection and research in Burlington, as well as research on best practices in parking in cities around the country. The full presentation can be viewed on [www.parkburlington.com](http://www.parkburlington.com).

Lastly, Kelly Devine, Executive Director of the Burlington Business Association, facilitated a Q&A session, where several members of the public and City commissioners asked questions and made comments about the suggested recommendations. All of those questions and comments are below. There were about 35 members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

- Better manage construction projects so parking is not disrupted
- Meter hoods should only be used when necessary, not 24-72 hours before the event
- Are you taking residents into account and addressing their needs and desires in this plan?
- You mention you've looked at other cities taking similar approaches, but have you looked at a range of approaches in terms of best practices?
- Take bike-friendliness into account
- Are you still looking at eliminating off-street parking requirements for downtown developers?
- Will more traffic be coming downtown as part of the Champlain Parkway? How will you manage those impacts?
- Garages are in terrible shape
- St. Paul's Cathedral may start charging for their lot – is there anything they need to know?

- Are there zoning issues with utilizing private lots better? Encumbrances need to be addressed.
- Do I have to work with the City to lease parking in my private lot or can I work independently with a private company?
- We should be thinking about downtown employees, especially low-wage earners
- Some residents want by-street permitting, not zones
- Is the City contracting with someone to broker deals for private lot use?
- Is there a timeline for the consultants? Are they finished?
- Will there be more detail in the plan on shared parking?
- Will the City consider shared parking principles for its garages and lots?
- What's the process for changing encumbrances that inhibit private lots being opened to the public?
- Has the Marketplace Garage already made changes to Sunday parking?
- Any changes with snow ban parking? The exit time needs to be enforced.
- Satellite parking should be considered.
- Have we looked at user comfort in garages in terms of design (width of spaces, turning radii, etc.)?
- Need benches on routes between parking and downtown
- Need restroom facilities
- Can anyone do private parking lot management, or should lot owners work with particular companies?