

PMP 2007 UPDATE
COMMUNITY MEETING NOTES
MARCH 12, 2007
THEATRE ON SAN PEDRO SQUARE
6:00-8:00 P.M.

Abi Maghamfar (SJRA) summarized the previous Parking Management Plan (PMP) and the current parking supply and demand. Jim Ortbal (DOT) presented the PMP 2007 Update summary which includes, "Convenient and Available Parking Supply," "Clean, Safe and Inviting Parking Facilities," and "Parking Incentives to Expand Business Downtown." Members of the Board presented the PMP Update recommendations as outlined in the attached power point presentation.

Public Comments:

- Ed Mosher – Owns a retail store downtown
 - Customers are confused about differing parking rates and times
 - Should promote walking
 - Asked if the parking fee of \$5 after 10pm will be issued upon entry or exiting

Vice Chair Monley stated the fee would be charged upon entry into the garages after 10pm.

- John Conway – San Jose Downtown Association (SJDA)
 - Does not support the parking fee of \$5 after 10pm
 - The \$5 rate will increase the parking supply but decrease the customers coming into downtown
 - Suggests charging a nominal fee 7 days a week
- Pam Dougherty – Plaza Hotel
 - Does not support the \$2 after 6pm and \$5 after 10pm parking rates
 - Supports the plan for building more parking spaces per housing unit
- Rod Chesler – Hunters Club
 - Does not support the parking fee of \$5 after 10pm
 - Supports the \$2 after 6pm parking fee if it is implemented at all public parking garages and lots
 - Asked if condominium developers especially 360 Residences were offered or required to participate in the Parking Plus Program

Mr. Maghamfar answered that Parking Plus is evaluated on a case-by-case project and that 360 Residences was not a good candidate for the program.

- Roger Lobbes – Trinity Cathedral member
 - The \$2 after 6pm and \$5 after 10pm parking fees is a recipe for failure and the rates will negatively impact the number of attendees at the church services
 - Did the Board consider the impact to the social services providers and churches when proposing to expand the parking incentives for businesses downtown?

- Does not support selling the 3rd Street Garage. He referred to an article from www.economists.com, dated March 1, 2007 which is called, "Where the Lights Aren't Bright." He said this article portrays the failure to redevelop San Jose.

Chair Gemignani explained that (in reference to the parking incentives) the reason for modifying the retail validation program was to include social service providers.

- Ben Soriano – South First Billiard Owner
 - He does support the \$2 after 6pm and \$5 after 10pm parking rates if it means more safety for his customers
 - Need increased Convention Center signage and more public parking spaces in the SoFA District

Abi Maghamar referred him to phase 1, recommendation #3. This recommendation proposes to implement Convention Center Garage pedestrian access and signage improvements. Chair Gemignani added that phase 2, recommendation #6 explains the exploration of a shuttle service.

- Ray O' Flaherty – O' Flaherty's Pub Owner
 - Suggest larger parking spots for the parking meter spaces
 - Says there are no change machines in downtown to feed the meters
- Estelle Kadis – San Jose Downtown Resident Association (SJDRA)
 - Validated parking should be offered to residents as well as businesses
 - Suggests that the restaurants and bars have a simple validation program
- Jerry VonTress – Team San Jose
 - Reiterated the importance of parking with the Convention Center expansion project
- John McCurry – Trinity Cathedral
 - Expanding the validation to include the social service organizations might not be workable
- Ishmael Arellono – Central Church pastor
 - Would like to know who to talk to so that church members can use the parking facility on Fifth Street on evenings and weekends. He indicated he was promised parking for the church members in the New City Hall employee garage.

Mr. Maghamfar suggested Jim Ortbal and himself talk to Mr. Arellono regarding his specific needs.

- Greg Mitchell – Victory Parking
 - Mentioned that his parking business is not tax exempt and asked how can private parking operators can provide parking [at a reasonable rate] when the City subsidizes public garages?

- Does not support the \$2 after 6pm and \$5 after 10pm parking rates, and suggests a uniform rate structure
- Suggested free on-street parking for approximately 2 hours during the day

- Eileen Parker – Trinity Cathedral and SJSU
 - Would like to see more encouragement to bring people downtown
 - Asked if there would be any parking built north of Santa Clara Street
 - Should help parking for churches north of Santa Clara Street
 - Handicap parking is hard to find downtown

- Ralph Peterson – Pita Pit
 - Does not support the \$2 after 6pm and \$5 after 10pm parking rates because he would lose customers
 - Where will the raised parking revenue be going?

- Karen Gelet – San Jose resident and graduate of SJSU
 - Feels safe in downtown in the day and the night
 - Suggests helping the churches with parking in the evening

- Kimberli Brady – San Jose Chamber of Commerce and downtown resident
 - Supports the \$5 after 10pm parking rates
 - City needs a more friendly police atmosphere (horseback patrolling) to promote a safe and fun atmosphere downtown

- Hermann Rehmeyer – Germania Club President
 - Where should Germania member's park when parking at the 2nd/St. James lot, which will be developed this summer, is no longer available?

Mr. Maghamfar suggested Jim Ortbal and himself talk to Mr. Rehmeyer regarding his specific needs.

- Bob Meiss – First Unitarian Church member
 - Will the free parking for hybrid vehicles program that was slated for cancellation in the April 2006 PMP be continued?

Mr. Ortbal said that staff will bring back some aspect of the program to present to the Board and City Council for continuation.

- Andrew Jones – Trinity Cathedral member
 - Developing retail in downtown is more critical than raising revenue
 - Does not support the \$2 after 6pm and \$5 after 10pm parking rates

- Ashok Nigam
 - Define downtown boundaries and build parking around it that could be used for long-term parking
 - Develop a shuttle service

Board Member Bales referred Mr. Nigam to phase 2, recommendation #6 which explains the exploration for shuttle services in downtown.

- Mathew Rafat
 - First have to have businesses that will attract A and B customers, then charging the increased parking rates would be acceptable
- Dale Tibbils – Zanotto's Market
 - Zanotto's will have a negative impact to their business with doubling the cost of validation to merchants
- Lauren Woessrer – Trinity Cathedral member
 - Supports the comments presented by Trinity Cathedral members
- Scott Knies – Executive Director of SJDA
 - The Association plans on introducing a program that allows patrons who receive a parking citation downtown to pay it at City Hall for \$1 if they pay it within one hour
- Dan Dougherty – resident & Owner Mission Ale House and Smoke Tiki Lounge
 - Does not support the \$2 after 6pm and \$5 after 10pm parking rates
 - Does not think the increased parking rates will be able to provide clean and safe garages
- T. Ding – Greyhound representative
 - Where will Greyhound be relocated if the lot is acquired?

Abi Maghamfar advised the representative that staff will be negotiating with Greyhound soon.

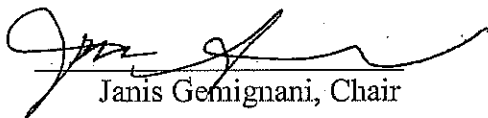
- Business Owner
 - Has a demographic study on loitering been conducted?
- Gary De Mattei – Theatre on San Pedro
 - Owners should have confidence that their businesses will bring people downtown even if there is paid parking
- Dennis Hickey
 - City lacks friendliness when it comes to parking meter enforcement and he supports Scott Knies parking citation proposal
- Homeowner – Julian Street
 - Crowded streets and driveways

Abi Maghamfar suggested DOT staff talk with the resident about the concern.

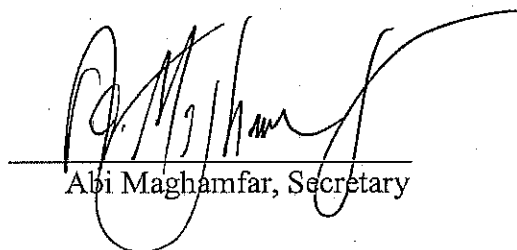
- Piet Van Allen – resident
 - Does not support the \$2 after 6pm and \$5 after 10pm parking rates
 - Providing 1 hr. free parking after 6pm at the 4th St. Garage to support King Library patrons is inadequate
 - The City does not owe private parking lots any kind of monopoly or guaranteed income for evening parking.
 - Social service organizations deserve free parking access

Abi Maghamfar thanked the public for their valuable input to the PMP 2007 Update. Abi also thanked the Board, staff and Jessica Garcia-Kohl, the Chief of Staff to Councilmember Sam Liccardo, District 3 who was present at the meeting and heard the public's input. He thanked Gary De Mattei, the owner of Theatre on San Pedro for the use of the facility.

The Board is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, March 14, 2007 at the City Hall on the 14th floor to consider public comment, revise recommendations as necessary and take action on the PMP 2007 Update. The Board is scheduled to provide a recommendation to the City Council for possible council action in the April 2007 timeframe.



Janis Gemignani, Chair



Abi Maghamfar, Secretary