

PARKING TASK FORCE

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

Video of the meeting is [HERE](#). Agenda packet [7-page pdf] is [HERE](#).

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Chair Gerard Pendergast, O.E. Burke, Elizabeth Jones, Wayne Lundberg, Tony Otte, and Serge Sorese. Excused: Zoe Neuner (vice chair).

Staff Present: Assistant City Manager Ron Neibert, City Clerk Kelly McQuillen

Background

At the task force's [September 5 meeting](#), members discussed and prepared with the assistance of staff an outline and draft of the task force's final report, comprising these key elements:

- Establish a citizens' Parking and Mobility Advisory Board and a centralized Parking and Mobility Department within the city administration.
- Expand paid parking to all city-controlled properties within the confines of the Flagler Avenue and Canal Street special parking districts.
- Expand payment technology that would include data collection capabilities and development of a scaled payment schedule depending on zone and location.
- Develop a standard leasing structure for shared parking with private owners in the special parking districts.
- Establish a shuttle service and/or free transportation system to be operated by direct ownership of the city or through a contractual agreement.
- Encourage and seek partnerships with privately owned businesses or entities that have existing parking lots in the parking districts.
- Hire a temporary advisor/consultant to: (i) evaluate and provide recommendations on payment and tracking technologies, (ii) advise on the formation, structure, and duties of a parking and mobility board and department, and (iii) advise on all signage and marking related to parking and mobility.

Chair Pendergast asked members to submit prior to the current meeting any details or elaborations they would like to submit for possible inclusion with the draft recommendations. The main points of discussion and edits to the report are provided below. The City Clerk assisted in preparing the report.

Discussion and Final Recommendations

Assistant City Manager Neibert announced that the **City Commission is scheduled to hear a presentation and discussion of the task force's report on October 24, 5:15-6:30 pm** as the sole item of new business on the commission's special meeting agenda.

Using the **draft report compilation** (Otte version of the September 5 draft), Pendergast led the discussion as members provided **copy edits** to the wording of the document as well as these **additions** and **revisions**. **Note:** several items that had not been approved by consensus at the September 5 meeting were adopted at this meeting by separate consensus votes.

- add statistics that characterize parking space shortages in the Flagler Av and Canal St areas.
- include the survey results from a March 2020 workshop on parking.
- include language that parking is an ongoing challenge for the city and should be managed by a permanent parking and mobility department and a citizens' board.
- the city should provide permits or a system to allow residents and employees reduced rates for paid parking in the Flagler and Canal parking districts.
- specify partners that the parking department and board should work with, including Volusia County, FDOT, Visitors Bureau

- attachments should accompany the report, including city resolutions that relate to parking and mobility topics, reports and previous studies, articles, and maps.
- the proposed new parking and mobility entity within city government should be its own unit since it would need to draw on and centralize responsibilities from several existing departments, and the citizens' advisory board would support that unit.
- prioritizing the recommendations, those related to hiring a consultant and establishing a department and advisory board would be in Phase 1, proposed tasks would be Phase 2, and long-term projects, such as potential parking garages, would be Phase 3
- for the recommendation to establish linkages for possible private-public parking, include reference to the Chamber of Commerce and to local merchants' and business associations.
- the city should work with the Venetian Bay developer and residents to prepare a parking plan.
- recommend that on-street parking along Flagler Avenue and Canal Street become 2-hour limit parking until paid parking is established along those streets.
- state that the preferred method of providing new spaces is through expansion of parking capacity with existing or future surface and shared lots.
- add a section, "Fiscal Considerations," with several bullets, including a statement that all costs for any recommendations will be provided through revenues generated solely by parking/mobility activities.

PRESENTATION TO CITY COMMISSION: Task Force Chair Pendergast will present a summary of the report at the Commission's Special Meeting October 24, 2023, 5:15-6:30 pm

REPORT: The Final Report will be available in the Agenda packet on October 18, 2023

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- A resident commented on the length of time for parking on Flagler Avenue and frustration with parking enforcement in that area.
- A resident and business owner on Flagler Avenue addressed that city policy doesn't require sufficient parking for new businesses and expressed limitations related to using private lots for public parking.
- Bob Williams from the Chamber of Commerce commended the members for their work and asked when members would be free from their Sunshine Law limitations.