

**TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
OCTOBER 25, 2010**

DOCKET ITEM: 4

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove parking on both sides of the 2600 block of Foster Avenue and the east side of the 5100 block of Fairbanks Avenue between Seminary Road and the northern property line of 5118 Fairbanks Avenue.

APPLICANT: Mr. John Kenny

LOCATION: Fairbanks Avenue and Foster Avenue

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the removal of parking on the east side of Fairbanks Avenue between Seminary Road and the entrance to the traffic circle at 5000 Fairbanks Avenue and the removal of parking on the south side of the 2600 block of Foster Avenue and around the cul-de-sac on the eastern end of the block.

DISCUSSION: Currently, no parking restrictions exist on either side of Fairbanks Avenue or Foster Avenue. Fairbanks Avenue is between 22' and 25' in width with no curb or gutter. Foster Avenue is 18' to 22' in width with no curb and gutter.

Multiple field investigations have shown the roadways to be fully parked on both sides during the weekdays. Due to the narrow widths of the roadways, vehicles parked on both sides of the street leave a very narrow travelway for through traffic on either street. This is a concern for fire and EMS vehicles, as the travelway does not allow enough width for emergency vehicles to pass through safely. The Hermitage Retirement Community is located at 5000 Fairbanks Avenue. The Hermitage has a recurrent need for emergency vehicles due to its use as a continuing care retirement community, raising further concern for the safe and efficient operations of emergency vehicles. Mr. Brian Hricik, EMS Operations Manager of the Fire Department, has surveyed the streets and requested the removal of parking on one side for emergency operations. Mr. Hricik also noted that parked vehicles in the Foster Avenue cul-de-sac prevent emergency vehicles from turning around.

Staff recommends the removal of parking on the east side of Fairbanks Avenue between Seminary Road and the entrance to the traffic circle at 5000 Fairbanks Avenue. Removal of parking on the east side would allow for the safe ingress of vehicles from Seminary Road onto Fairbanks Avenue and a sufficient travelway for emergency vehicles to progress to the Hermitage in addition to any other incident on Fairbanks Avenue.

Further, staff recommends the removal of parking on the north side of the 2600 block of Foster Avenue and around the cul-de-sac on the eastern end of the block. Removal of

parking on the north side would also allow for the safe operations of fire and EMS vehicles. Removal of parking in the cul-de-sac allows for full operation of emergency vehicles, as is intended in a cul-de-sac design. Retention of the maximum amount of parking on the west side allows residents to have access to spaces when needed.

Finally, staff recommends posting of No Parking to Corner signage on the southeast corner of Foster Avenue and Fairbanks Avenue at the 20' distance restricted by Code.

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DOCKET ITEM: 5

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove the loading zone and implement 2 hour parking 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Saturday on the west side of the 100 block of North Fayette Street from King Street to 90' north and on the east side of the block for the 40' in front of 107 North Fayette St.

APPLICANT: Danielle Romanetti, Fibre Space, 102 North Fayette St

LOCATION: 100 Block of North Fayette Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the request.

DISCUSSION: Currently, the majority of the parking on the west side of the 100 block of North Fayette Street is unrestricted. There is a 20' loading zone, which is active from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday through Saturday, on the west side just north of King Street. The east side of the block has a 20' no parking zone just north of King Street and a 40' loading zone, which is active from 9:00 am – 7:00 pm Monday through Saturday. The subsequent 40' of curbspace in front of the Five Guys establishment is unrestricted

Ms. Romanetti's business is located on the west side of Fayette Street where there is unrestricted parking. Ms. Romanetti is making this request because commuters are monopolizing the parking all day long in front of her shop, making it difficult for customers to patronize her business. The 100 block of North Fayette Street has a mixture of commercial and residential uses. Most of the buildings have ground floor retail with apartments on the second floor. This block is not in a residential parking district, however, residents would be eligible to participate in the residential permit parking program. Permit holders would not be excluded from the proposed two hour parking restrictions.

Parking meters used to be on the west side of Fayette Street but were removed approximately 15 years ago at the request of one of the previous shop owners. Since this street is already listed as a metered parking area in section 5-8-92 of the city code, metered parking may be reinstalled as part of the Old Town multispace meter project. The two hour restrictions would be consistent with the meter hours in the area. The recently completed Old Town Area Parking Study recommends increasing turnover in front of commercial land uses through implementation of metered parking or decreasing allowable time restrictions. This proposed restriction is in concurrence with the study recommendations. The West End Civic Association has been notified of this request.

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DOCKET ITEM: 6

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to replace two unrestricted parking spaces with handicapped parking spaces in front of Meade Memorial Episcopal Church 322 North Alfred Street. The first space will be reserved handicapped parking from 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Sundays, and the second space will be reserved handicapped all times.

APPLICANT: Meade Memorial Episcopal Church

LOCATION: 300 block of North Alfred Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of this request.

DISCUSSION: This request was submitted by Meade Memorial Episcopal Church. The church has a large number of elderly and disabled parishioners attending church services. These parishioners have difficulty walking from the surrounding on-street parking to the church. The handicapped spaces are needed so that elderly and disabled members of the congregation can park close to the church. The church is requesting two handicapped parking spaces in front of building one for permanent parking and one for Sunday Only from 8:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. The Inner City civic association was notified of this request.

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DOCKET ITEM: 7

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to install a two space Loading Zone at 3015 Mount Vernon Avenue from 8:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. Monday through Friday.

APPLICANT: Larry Ponzi

LOCATION: 3015 Mount Vernon Avenue

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the request contingent upon approval of the Special Use Permit for the restaurant.

DISCUSSION: This request was submitted by Mr. Larry Ponzi who is applying for Special Use Permit (SUP) to open a restaurant at 3015 Mount Vernon Avenue, at the Del Ray Central Apartment Building parcel. The only access to the proposed restaurant for deliveries is the Mount Vernon Avenue side of the building. This request is being made before SUP approval of the restaurant so that the delivery of supplies can be addressed in the SUP application. The Del Ray civic association has been notified of this request.

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DOCKET ITEM: 8

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to implement 2 hour parking restrictions from 10:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. Monday through Saturday for 850' in front of 3051 Mount Vernon Avenue.

APPLICANT: Staff request

LOCATION: 3015 Mount Vernon Avenue

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of the request.

DISCUSSION: A request for a Special Use Permit has been submitted by Café Piazzo for the use of the retail space as a restaurant at 3015 Mount Vernon Avenue. A parking reduction has been requested as part of the SUP, which is supported by staff. Currently, the parking spaces on the east side of Mt. Vernon Ave. in front of 3015 are unrestricted.

Implementing two hour parking restrictions from 10:00 am – 10:00 pm would allow for turnover in front of the retail space, while allowing for overflow residential parking in the evenings and on Sundays. These spaces are fronting a commercial space and a recently constructed residential building, which has on-site garage parking for residents and visitors. This development was approved without any parking reductions for residents or visitors. As part of the construction of the development, additional on-street spaces were built on Mt. Vernon Ave and Commonwealth Ave. These spaces will allow parking for customers of the proposed restaurant with adequate turnover.