



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

PARKING COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

PACKET

September 26, 2024

Thursday, September 26, 2024

Hybrid Meeting in in the Hooker Conference Room (Room #245) of City Hall and Remotely on Zoom

5:30 PM — 7:00 PM

The City is committed to providing equal access to information. However, despite our efforts, at times, portions of our board and commission packets are not accessible for some individuals. If you encounter difficulties accessing material in this packet, please contact Melissa Hirtzel at hirtzelm@bloomington.in.gov and provide your name, contact information, and a link to or description of the document or web page you are having problems with.

PARKING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

September 26, 2024, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM

The meeting will be held both in person in the Hooker Conference Room (Room #245) of City Hall at the Showers Building, 401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, Indiana and through a virtual platform via Zoom using the following link:

<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/6359441221>

Meeting ID: 635 944 1221

Passcode: COBPT

Dial by your location: 312 626 6799 (Chicago)

- I. Call to Order
 - A. New Commissioner
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - A. August 24, 2023
 - B. September 28, 2023
 - C. October 26, 2023
 - D. January 25th
 - E. March 28th
- III. Reports from Commissioners and City Offices
 - A. Discuss annual reports
 - B. 6th St back-in angled parking - timeline update
- IV. Reports from the Public
- V. Discussions of Resolutions
 - A. PC-24-04 - Request to limit vehicular access to a portion of the alley between E. Kirkwood Ave. and E. 4th St.
- VI. Discussions of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions
- VII. Topic Suggestions for Future Agendas
- VIII. Member Announcements
- IX. Commission Schedule (Regular Meeting and Work Session)
- X. Adjournment
 - A. Last signature on Parking Resolution 24-04

Auxiliary aids for people with disabilities are available upon request with advance notice.

Please call (812) 349-3429 or E-mail human.rights@bloomington.in.gov.

Next Regular Meeting: October 24, 2024, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM
Deadline for Next Regular Meeting Packet Material: Monday, October 21, 2024

Commissioners: Stephen Volan (Chair) (Seat: C-1 Merchant), Katie Yoder (Seat: C-2 City Resident), Eoban Binder (Secretary) (Seat: C-3 City Resident), Matt Flaherty (Vice-Chairperson) (Seat: C-4 Council Ex-officio), Jackson Murphy (Seat: C-5 City Resident), Jordan Davis (Seat: M-1 Merchant), VACANT (Seat: M-2 Non-profit), Ben Dalton (Vice-chair) (Seat: M-3 City Resident), Michelle Wahl (Seat: M-4 City Staff)

PARKING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Date: 8/24/2023, 5:30 PM

The meeting was held hybridly in the Hooker Conference Room and remotely on Zoom.

Parking Commission minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings of the meeting are available in the Planning and Transportation Department for reference.

Attendance

Parking Commissioners present:

Ben Dalton (Chair), Jack Wanninger (Vice-Chair), Eoban Binder (Secretary), Christopher Emge, David Wolfe Bender, Michael Schnoll, Stephen Volan

Parking Commissioners absent:

Wahl

Others in Attendance:

Ryan Robling, Karina Pazos (CoB staff)

- I. Call to Order – (~ 5:30 PM)**
- II. Approval of Minutes – none**
- III. Reports from Commissioners & City Offices**
 - A. Karina Pazos reports the Streets and Roadways Steering Committee is seeking members (two members from Parking Commission); looking to work on Vision Zero plan, and applying for grants. All grant applications require a steering committee. Emge asks for clarification on committee's goals. Staff: seeking amendment to Transportation Plan, starting with a Council resolution. Funding is approved but amendment resolution is still pending. CM Volan raises question about relationship between parking and safety. Dalton volunteers to serve on the steering committee.
 - B. Jack Wanninger report: Applied for Neighborhood Zone 1 parking permit. Had praise for how smoothly the system works.
- IV. Reports from the Public (none)**
- V. Discussions of Resolutions**
 - A. Resolution 23-03 - Accessible parking for persons with disabilities (staff)
 - Audrey Brittingham, city attorney: wanting to update Title 15 line to ensure downtown parking accessible spaces are not to be limited to 4 hours, but

to unlimited time just like the other spaces around them. Various questions from commission on exact language, and the result of the new language. Motion from CM Volan for positive recommendation. Motion carries: 4 yes; 1 no; 3 abstain

VI. Discussions of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions

- Emge: revisiting loading zones and how they are managed and periodically reviewed.
- Wolf Bender: revisiting meter rates. Dalton suggests expanding this to reviewing more data overall and then making certain recommendations, which could include meter rates. Discussion of timing with respect to old and new council in January; commission should produce a report for council; Bender volunteers to begin creating outline.
- Wanninger: possible inconsistencies in parking violations language, and class C traffic infractions (\$50). But, bike lane is only class B violation. CM Volan: strategies for enforcement, and for signage. Many cars continue to stop in 3rd St bike lane. Is enforcement responsibility of Bloomington Police department? Parking enforcement? IU Police? IU Parking?

VII. Commission Schedule (Regular Meeting and Work Session)

- Next Work Meeting: none scheduled
- Next Regular Meeting: Sep 28, 2023, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM

VIII. Adjournment – CM Volan moves to adjourn; Wanninger seconds. Adjourned ~6:35 PM

PARKING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Date: 9/28/2023, 5:30 PM

The meeting was held hybridly in the Hooker Conference Room and remotely on Zoom.

Parking Commission minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings of the meeting are available in the Planning and Transportation Department for reference.

Attendance

Parking Commissioners present:

Ben Dalton (Chair), Jack Wanninger (Vice-Chair), Eoban Binder (Secretary), Stephen Volan, Christopher Emge

Parking Commissioners absent:

Schnoll, Wolfe Bender, Wahl

Others in Attendance:

Ryan Robling, Karina Pazos (CoB staff)

- I. **Call to Order** – (~ 5:30 PM)
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – Minutes amended to note Wanninger is Vice-Chair, not CM Volan. CM Volan moves to approve; Emge seconds. Approved unanimously.
- III. **Reports from Commissioners & City Offices**
 - A. Robling: memo from Stephen Lucas on subject of creating Transportation Advisory Commission.
 - B. Response from Emge: CM Volan is on committee evaluating merging transportation commissions; has commission ever applied for grants / appropriations? CM Volan: should all the commissions have the same rules, responsibilities, etc? More than the baseline of officers, having bylaws, etc.
 - C. Annual report is supposed to be submitted each October. Binder: perhaps there should be a template? CM Volan: has already been proposed
 - D. CM Volan: if commissions are being merged anyway, Parking Commission shouldn't spend time on its own governance/language. Dalton: we typically have a full docket, so how would a single merged commission not be overburdened? More discussion of scope of Parking Commission.
- IV. **Reports from the Public**
 - Terra Trace resident complaint about ineligibility to purchase Zone 6 permit.

- Discussion: tried to do this already, didn't get anywhere with council with idea of different pricing for multifamily. Dalton: what about limited number of additional permits, lottery system? Emge: could Parking Services even operate a system like this? (Question directed to Rayeann Cox; Cox refers commission to ask this question of Michelle Wahl).
- Wolfe Bender: wants to look at numbers more closely; which neighborhood zones are under-capacity, over-capacity, etc?
- Robling: no official position from staff on Zone 6 issue yet, but may have it for next time.

V. Discussions of Resolutions

- A. Resolution 23-03 - Accessible parking for persons with disabilities (staff)
- Audrey Brittingham, city attorney: wanting to update Title 15 line to ensure downtown parking accessible spaces are not to be limited to 4 hours, but to unlimited time just like the other spaces around them. Various questions from commission on exact language, and the result of the new language. Motion from CM Volan for positive recommendation
 - Motion carries: 4 yes; 1 no; 3 abstain

VI. Discussions of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions

- Loading zone distribution, enforcement hours. Cox: most zones are placed as-needed, trying to avoid trucks blocking travel lanes, etc. Robling: by default they are 24/7. CM Volan: sounds like a title 15 change would be in order. Cox: staff uses chalk on tires, checks back after 30 minutes
- Atwater on-street parking between Woodlawn and Faculty. Was it added before? (yes) why was it removed? (staff thought it was in ordinance, but actually was not). Traffic flow, safety concerns, merits of travel lane vs. parking. Robling: Atwater and 3rd are next in line to be studied more closely, after College/Walnut corridor study.

VI. Topic Suggestions for Future Agendas

- Loading zone relocations; joint meeting with traffic commission?
- Wolfe Bender wants to draft proposal for presentation of findings of commission; questions on timeline
- CM Volan: Title 15 changes, effective deadline is december

VII. Member Announcements

- CM Volan giving talk about college campuses on October 12 at Collins LLC.
- Wanninger: police have no citations issued for the last 5 years; CM Volan: suggestion to check City Clerk's office / T2 records. Wanninger: will be reaching out also to IUPD.

VIII. Commission Schedule (Regular Meeting and Work Session)

- Next Work Meeting: none scheduled
- Next Regular Meeting: Oct 26, 2023, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM

IX. **Adjournment** – CM Volan moves to adjourn; Binder seconds. Adjourned ~6:55 PM

PARKING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Date: 10/26/2023, 5:30 PM

The meeting was held hybridly in the Hooker Conference Room and remotely on Zoom.

Parking Commission minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings of the meeting are available in the Planning and Transportation Department for reference.

Attendance

Parking Commissioners present:

Ben Dalton (Chair), Jack Wanninger (Vice-Chair), Eoban Binder (Secretary), Stephen Volan, Christopher Emge, Michelle Wahl

Parking Commissioners absent:

Schnoll, Wolfe Bender

Others in Attendance:

Ryan Robling, Karina Pazos (CoB staff)

- I. **Call to Order** – (~ 5:30 PM)
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – June minutes approved unanimously
- III. **Reports from Commissioners & City Offices**
 - A. Robling: Showed letter drafted to City Council summing up Parking Commission's previous discussion of Council's request for comments on city commissions' processes and procedures
 - B. Wahl: Presented parking system usage report, consisting of neighborhood permit sales, garage transient revenue, garage monthly revenue, and garage average occupancy (transient and monthly combined) percentage.
 - C. Robling: Transportation Advisory Commission proposal;
- IV. **Reports from the Public**
 - 146 Willow Ct. (Gabriel Farmer, Donna Crawford); neighbors' cars frequently parked in cul-de-sac, making it difficult for vehicles to turn around; residents cited instances of a bus, waste collection truck, and ambulance all having difficulties. CoB staff will work to address.
 - 416 E. 17th St (Matt Winter); resident lives in neighborhood permit zone 6 and is ineligible to purchase a permit due to living in a multifamily building.
 - Courthouse square (Annabelle Klemsz); resident was unhappy about parking options downtown, felt unsafe parking in garages and also believed it was too expensive. CM Volan followed up individually.

- 319 W. 15th St. (Jessica Shurr) resident lives in a single-family home but is not within a neighborhood zone; inquired how to get a zone created.

V. Commission Schedule (Regular Meeting and Work Session)

- Next Work Meeting: none scheduled
- Next Regular Meeting: Nov 16, 2023, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM

VI. Adjournment – Adjourned ~7:02 PM

PARKING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Date: 1/25/2024, 5:30 PM

The meeting was held hybridly in the Hooker Conference Room and remotely on Zoom.

Parking Commission minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings of the meeting are available in the Planning and Transportation Department for reference.

Attendance

Parking Commissioners present:

Dalton, Binder, Emge, Wahl, Wolfe-Bender

Others in Attendance:

Staff: Robling, Pazos, Cox

Public: Thomas Jasin, Denise Valkyrie, Volan

- I. **Call to Order** – (~ 5:32 PM)
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – none
- III. **Reports from Commissioners & City Offices**
 - A. Commissioners resigning: David Wolfe-Bender and Jack Wanninger
- IV. **Reports from the Public**
 - A. **121 N Pete Ellis Dr. (Thomas Jasin)** - Petitioner is requesting angle spaces on Pete Ellis be changed to 2-hour limit. Parking Services reluctant to add signs because it is outside the enforcement zone, however, will call to respond to ADA and loading zone violations
 - B. **7th and Kirkwood Ave. (Denise Valkyrie)** - petitioner wants more ADA spaces, especially around kirkwood, and monroe health building on 7th. Parking director responds about 20 more ADA spaces in addition to the current 70 spaces in the city. however there were no bids on the last contract.
 - C. **Valet parking** - member of the public wants to know what the process is for creating valet on-street parking/loading spaces. Parking Services director responds that there is no process; Cox adds that during Cruzan administration, some research done on this and determined it was not feasible or desirable.
- V. **Discussions of Resolutions (none)**

VI. Discussions of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions

- A. No-parking signs on E. Maxwell Ln. - concerns from public about too many vehicles parked on Maxwell Ln. used for pickup/dropoff for nearby school. Brief discussion on what the process would be to make adjustments. Parking Services staff recommended Engineering conduct a site visit during school hours.
- B. Zone 6 parking, loading zones, etc. - no discussion on these topics, but noted for future meetings.
- C. City commission structure - Dalton asked staff about where in the process the administration was in determining any restructuring of commissions. Robling responded the mayor's office is still researching.

VII. Topic Suggestions for Future Agendas (none beyond topics already mentioned above)

VIII. Member Announcements (none)

IX. Commission Schedule (Regular Meeting and Work Session)

- Next Regular Meeting: February 22, 2024, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM
- No scheduled work session.

X. Adjournment – ~ 6:40PM

PARKING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

Date: 3/28/2024, 5:30 PM

The meeting was held hybridly in the Hooker Conference Room and remotely on Zoom.

Parking Commission minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings of the meeting are available in the Planning and Transportation Department for reference.

Attendance

Parking Commissioners present:

CM Flaherty, Volan, Binder (acting chair)

Others in Attendance:

Staff: Pazos

Public: none

- I. Call to Order** – (~ 5:32 PM)
- II. Approval of Minutes** – none
- III. Reports from Commissioners & City Offices**
 - A. Commission operations:
 - i. Discussion of appointments (past, current, future) to the commission.
 - ii. Questions/requests from CM Flaherty on procedures for staff on organizing commission meetings and communicating with commissioners; when to post agendas; when are packet deadlines; what are the policies for attendance (in-person vs. remote); etc.
 - iii. Returning to appointments discussion. Flaherty notes council doesn't have many applicants, needs to do more recruiting.
 - iv. Discussion of a staff commissioner position; currently Parking Services Director has a voting position, but should it be a non-voting support role rather than a voting/policymaking role?
 - v. Discussion of commission meeting schedule; is a different day of the week better for the purpose of recruiting new members?
- IV. Reports from the Public** (none)
- V. Discussions of Resolutions** (none)
- VI. Discussions of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions**
 - A. Priorities for the commission

- i. Volan: revive use of comprehensive parking policy; policy was passed last year, so it should be referred to often, and new commissioners briefed on the policy
- ii. Volan: Ordinance 18-11 eliminated permit option for part-time downtown workers, but should it be brought back?
- iii. Binder: neighborhood zones, no real process in place for adding, removing, adjusting zones, but there should be a clear process for review/changes
- iv. Other topics: curb-side space use; street closures to motor traffic; opportunities to repurpose existing parking to more productive uses (housing, etc.); Hopewell neighborhood's parking garage; eliminating parking minimums; interaction/cooperation between commission and the Transportation Demand Management staffer; parking permit eligibility in neighborhood zones; visitor permits; parking cash-outs; EV charging; commission's reporting; parking benefit districts.

VII. Topic Suggestions for Future Agendas (none)

VIII. Member Announcements (none)

IX. Commission Schedule (Regular Meeting and Work Session)

- Next Regular Meeting: April 25, 2024, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM
- No scheduled work session.

X. Adjournment – ~ 7:00 PM



**PARKING COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT**

Case #: PC-24-04
Date: July 25, 2024

FROM: Ryan Robling, Planning Services Manager, Planning and Transportation Department

REQUEST: Limit vehicular access to a portion of the Alley between E. Kirkwood Ave. and E.4th St.

Location: Alley-Between: E. Kirkwood Ave. and E. 4th St. from S. Walnut St. to 100' east of S. Walnut St.

Background: The Engineering and Planning & Transportation Departments received a traffic inquiry from the Uptown Cafe, a local business located along E. Kirkwood Ave. The inquiry addressed concerns regarding public safety and property damage along a portion of the alley. The inquiry aims to explore the possibility of closing a section of the alley to vehicular traffic, specifically from S. Walnut St to a point 100 feet east of S. Walnut St.

The inquirer has included some observations and analysis, summarized below. Additionally, the inquirer has included some pictures to help illustrate the concerns.

- **Safety Concerns:** The inquirer deemed the alley hazardous due to the excessive speeds of cars along the alley. Additionally, the inquirer identified the presence of business back doors opening directly onto the alley as a safety risk.
- **Inadequate Width:** The inquirer has concerns about the narrow width of the alley, which is especially unsuitable for larger vehicles, such as trucks. These larger vehicles frequently cause damage to adjacent structures, including buildings, exhaust fans, AC units, and lighting fixtures.
 - **Additional Hazards:** The installation of gas meters and high-power boxes further compounds the potential dangers associated with this alley.

Staff Response: Alleys are an important method of providing safe and efficient loading zones for businesses in the downtown. The portion of the alley in the petition is currently being utilized by the businesses along both Walnut St. and Kirkwood Ave. for this purpose. Restricting the vehicular use of this portion of the alley will remove almost 100 feet of loading zone from Walnut St., requiring additional deliveries to be made on Walnut St. While access to the alley is possible from the south through the City's 4th & Washington Lot, we have seen in other downtown locations that delivery drivers will default to the closest, safest delivery option when available. Utilization of alley delivery loading helps to decrease safety and traffic obstacles for both drivers and vulnerable road users.

Alleys, by definition, provide vehicular access to the side or rear of a property. The Bloomington Municipal Code has two definitions for alley:

Section 15.04.030 – Alley. "Alley" means a public way for vehicular travel located at the rear or side of residences or businesses.



Section 20.07.010 – Define Words. A right-of-way through or partially through a block, intended for secondary vehicular access to the rear or side of properties. However, where vehicle access from the street is not permitted or not possible, an alley may provide primary vehicle access.

The Comprehensive Plan, via the Transportation Plan, provides the following guidance:

When possible, loading zones should be relocated to alleyways to avoid conflicts between delivery trucks, motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians... Alleyways create a clear front and back to a building and provide access for services such as deliveries, trash, recycling, and more. As noted, alleys are important for removing loading zones and deliveries from streets...

As noted, this alley serves as the entrance to the City’s 4th & Washington Lot. Restricting vehicular access to this alley will limit the safety and ease of northbound traffic accessing the parking lot.

The City is currently in the process of completing a corridor study which will analyze this portion of Walnut St. for multimodal traffic as well as parking and delivery space. This proposed change to the alley could potentially impact future designs to the College and Walnut corridor.

Questions from Traffic Inquiry Process:

Have there been any instances of severe crashes in this alley? There have been no fatal or serious injury crashes in or directly adjacent to this alley in the last 20 years. The alley has not experienced any pedestrian or pedalcyclist crashes in the same period.

Is Duke Energy permitted to have installations within the alley? Duke Energy and other utility providers are allowed to install certain equipment within the right-of-way. However, property owners are not permitted to install equipment.

Title 15 Changes Required: There is no current method for closing an alley to vehicular traffic. To close the alley to vehicular traffic, Section 15.04.030 – Alley would need to be amended to change the definition to not strictly include vehicular travel. Additionally, a new section of Title 15 would need to be created to list alleyways that are closed to vehicular traffic. Potential changes would appear as follows:

15.04.030 – Alley. "Alley" means a public way for travel located at the rear or side of residences or business.

15.65 – STREETS AND ALLEYS CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAVEL.

SCHEDULE X

Restricted Alleys

Alley-Between	From	To
E Kirkwood Ave. and E 4 th St.	S Walnut St	~100' east of S Walnut St.

Recommendation:



Staff recommends that the Traffic Commission not act on the petition at this time, as it does not align with the Comprehensive Plan's goals for utilizing alleys for deliveries and vehicular access. Additionally, it is necessary to complete the College and Walnut Corridor Study and analyze further considerations before permanent changes are made to adjacent alleyways.



Alley looking west toward S. Walnut St. delivery vehicle parking in the alleyway.



Alley looking west toward S. Walnut St. delivery vehicle parking in the alleyway. (1/2)



Alley looking east toward S. Washington St. delivery vehicle parking in the alleyway. (2/2)



Alley looking west toward S. Walnut St. delivery vehicle parking in the alleyway.



Newly installed Duke power lines from 8/31/23



Newly installed Duke power box from 8/31/23



Established 1976
CJME

FOUNTAIN SQUARE

UPTOWN APARTMENTS



DEMAND A BETTER WORLD



Established 1975



UPTOWN APARTMENTS

DEMAND A BETTER WORLD

COURT

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