

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**FIRST HILL PARKING WORKGROUP**  
**APRIL 24, 2003**  
**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**6:00 – 7:30 PM**

**ATTENDEES**

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Mike Brewer, resident  
Tamara Bunnell, NW School & resident  
Linda Johnson, Harborview  
Stephen Jones, First Baptist Church  
Karen Lee Kimber, Swedish Hospital  
Esta Pekow, Stewardship Committee

Meghan Shepard, Seattle Department of  
Transportation (SDOT)  
Randy Wiger, SDOT  
Mark Troxel, Department of Design,  
Construction, and Land Use (DCLU)

Notes prepared by Randy Wiger

**ACTION ITEMS**

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- City staff will incorporate comments into a prioritized First Hill Parking Matrix.
- The focus of the next meeting will be on-street parking management.

**MEETING SUMMARY**

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The summary of the First Hill Walking Tour on April 21, 2003 was presented along with the list of items identified for possible improvements or changes. There was brief discussion of why there is no parking on the block of 9<sup>th</sup> Ave between Jefferson and James St (item #22), and then the discussion centered on a need for mitigation strategies for on-street parking lost during upcoming construction projects around Harborview.

There was some discussion of how buses turning at 9<sup>th</sup> and James St. snarl traffic. Meeting attendees concurred that they would like to investigate if buses could go straight instead of turning at that intersection to improve traffic flow.

In response to comments made at the Parking Kick-Off in February, Linda Johnson provided an update that the Harborview maps/pamphlets showing parking locations are now up-to-date and accurate. Harborview also has 15 passenger shuttles from remote lots just to aid employees who park off-site. Currently, there is a 500-person waiting list for a parking spots at Harborview.

Mark Troxel, DCLU spoke about how currently the code does not allow parking stalls on residential property (such as underground parking in newer apartment buildings) to be used for commercial uses, which prevents useful lot-sharing arrangements with nearby businesses. DCLU is looking into how this might be changed.

Esta Pekow expressed concern about the lack of merchant participation in these meetings so far, and the move of the Mailboxes & More from Madison to the Harvard Market (at Pike and Broadway). City staff responded that they, too, share this concern.

## **FIRST HILL PARKING MATRIX PRESENTED**

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A Parking Matrix containing parking-related items from the Neighborhood Plan, the First Hill Parking Study, and comments captured during the kick-off meeting and walking tour was presented. The items were grouped into six categories of Enforcement, Off-Street Parking, On-Street Parking, RPZ, TDM and Other. The workgroup then prioritized the nearly three dozen items, with attendee selecting their top five priorities. The following comments were made during this process:

### Off-Street Parking:

(#28) Investigate unused parcels for parking purposes. Comments were made that the City wants \$300,000 for curb cuts for the triangular lot the PolyClinic owns at Broadway and Spring. This is a barrier for the PolyClinic to develop this lot for parking.

(#2) Investigate how the City regulates how off-street parking can be built. Stephen Jones commented that the City code prohibits the church from building a 200-stall lot, which they mostly would use only on Sunday mornings, and then renting out the stalls during weekdays when services are not in session.

### On-Street Parking:

(#43) Explore opportunities to add more angled parking, including removing existing planting strips to widen streets for this purpose. Concern was expressed that green space is currently limited in First Hill and this type of change would trade green areas for parking. An example was given of angled parking combined in Ballard on 55<sup>th</sup> St, along the south side of the Post Office.

(#34 & 36) Mitigate impact on on-street parking from construction projects by using a restricted zone or other permit mechanism. Concern was also expressed that the City does not give enough notice, often not even the three days required. Residents who only use their car once a week are not on a given block each day, and so often miss the signs even when three-day advance notice is given.

### Other:

(#41) Explore preservation parking, including when new buildings build additional parking that can act as a reservoir for nearby buildings that do not have on-site parking.

### New Item:

Examine on-street parking impacts at the intersection of Madison and Broadway, especially during rush hour consider limiting parking near the intersection to help prevent accidents.

## **NEXT MEETING**

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The First Hill Parking Workgroup decided to hold meetings at First Baptist Church, with the next one being on May 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting Adjourned**