

Centretown Local Area Parking Study

- Stakeholder Meeting -
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Stakeholder Meeting

- Objectives:
 - Provide an overview of the Municipal Parking Management Program and the Local Area Study process; and
 - Give stakeholders the opportunity to identify parking issues for the Centretown area given current conditions and future needs

Overview

- Centretown study driven by:
 - Stakeholder parking concerns
 - Alignment with planning exercises (e.g. CDP)
 - Intensification in the area
- Objective is to determine the need for, nature and extent of municipal involvement in the provision of public parking services
 - *Consistent with Municipal Parking Management Strategy (MPMS)*

Municipal Parking Management Strategy

- Objectives
 - Appropriate supply of affordable, secure, accessible, convenient and appealing public parking
 - Short-term parking in support of businesses / institutions
 - Support residential intensification and resolve parking problems within residential areas caused by significant traffic generators
 - Promote use of alternative modes of transportation
 - Financially self-sustaining program
- Goal of achieving ‘Practical Capacity’ (85%) during peak periods

Local Area Parking Studies

- Terms of Reference established as part of the MPMS help to create a consistent model:
 - Study context (defined area, consideration of land uses / urban planning)
 - Existing conditions (inventory / utilization and regulations / rates)
 - Assess challenges and opportunities (existing and future with a focus on optimizing facilities)
 - Engagement of stakeholders
 - Application of 'Tool Box'

The Parking Toolbox

Parking Availability

- Promote off-street spaces (wayfinding, marketing)
- Adjust enforcement levels
- Adjust curb-side parking regulations (days, hours, durations)
- Adjust parking pricing

Parking Supply

- Reconfigure existing lots to maximize spaces
- Adjust municipal parking supply
- Optimize curb-side parking supply
- Use of development agreements (i.e. developer provided public parking)
- Adjust zoning provisions for public parking

Alternative Modes of Transportation

- Improve bicycle parking
- Improve transit service levels
- Promote measures to reduce employee parking demand (i.e. telework)
- Promote carsharing / carpooling

Purpose of a Local Area Parking Study

- The purpose of a Local Area Parking Study is to determine how the municipality can assist local business and the community by ensuring the availability of parking to the public. Some recommendations from past parking studies include:
 - Explore potential to increase both off-street and on-street parking supply;
 - Address the need for additional bicycle parking;
 - Monitor parking occupancy of off-street parking lots and adjust accordingly;
 - Improve wayfinding signs around off-street parking options;
 - Encourage establishment of short-term parking within new private sector developments to better balance supply and demand in the future.

Three Phases of a Local Area Parking Study

- **Phase 1:** *Overview of Existing and Future Conditions*
- **Phase 2:** *Data Collection and Analysis*
- **Phase 3:** *Recommendations*

Phase 1: *Overview of Existing and Future Conditions*

- Gather information to understand general characteristics of the study area.
- Compile land use information,
- Investigate background in the area relative to growth and urban planning,
- Review past parking reports / studies, as well as enforcement data, population and employment forecasts and modal share data.

Phase 2: *Data Collection & Analysis*

- Account for existing parking supply and parking regulations;
- Survey existing parking demand, compile, process and analyze the data;
- Account for stakeholder feedback and observations and apply the 'parking toolbox'.
- Check-in with stakeholders (through regular consultation and an Open House)

Phase 3: *Recommendations*

- Recommend solutions based on findings and consultation (see examples above).
- Other potential solutions: change parking regulations, increase or decrease enforcement, encourage alternative modes of transportation, introduce or fine-tuning paid parking rates (higher or lower).

Centretown Local Area Parking Study



Where We are Now?

Project Initiation

Apr-May 2015

- Inventory of total parking supply
- Consultation with stakeholders to receive input

Data Collection

May-Jul 2015

- Parking occupancy counts
- Visitor survey

Evaluation

Aug-Dec 2015

- Analysis of results
- Identification of potential solutions

Consultation

Nov-Feb 2015 / 2016

- Public Open House
- Circulation of study report

Finalize Study

Feb-Apr 2016

- Finalize recommendations and reports
- To Transportation Committee

Tasks Completed to Date

- Full parking inventory (on-street / off-street)
- Comprehensive occupancy data collection
 - All on-street and off-street parking spaces through a plate survey (yields occupancy & duration data)
 - Total of 12 time points - Weekday / Saturday / Sunday
 - Morning (10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)
 - Midday (12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.)
 - Afternoon (2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.)
 - Evening (6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- Complete bicycle parking inventory

Consultation

- Consultation undertaken to date:
 - Initial consultation meeting with CCCA and Bank Street BIA (March / April)
 - Distributed Start-Up Notice to stakeholders – request for feedback (April 29)
 - Travel Surveys / Questionnaires
 - Approximately 400 respondents to-date

Consultation (cont.)

- What we've heard:
 - To-date, limited comments received
 - Discussions with stakeholders around the following topics:
 - Front yard parking
 - Concerns around development applications (i.e. reducing parking requirements for new developments)

Remaining Steps

- Receive final data from consultant
- Additional data collection
 - Bike parking demand
 - Supplemental turnover data
 - Inventory of front-yard parking spaces
- Development of Study
 - Analysis of all data and research
 - Identification of potential solutions

Remaining Steps (cont.)

- Continued consultation
 - Check-ins and Public Open House (scheduled for January)
- Develop recommendations
- Circulate draft report to stakeholders and receive comments
- Finalize report and recommendations & present to Transportation Committee

Thank You !



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