



Old Town Area Parking Study Work Group
<http://alexandriava.gov/ParkingStudies#OldTownStudy>
Kick-Off Meeting
June 18, 2012

Work Group Attendees

Aimee Houghton
Bert Ely
Charlie Banta
Heidi Ford
John Hassett

Jon Gosling
Mark Abramson
Mark Feldheim
Marsha Wright
Carol Supplee

Mollie Danforth
Nate Macek
Peter Pennington

City Staff Attendees

Abi Lerner
Barbara Ross
Faye Dastgheib
Karen Callahan
Nancy Williams
Sandra Marks

Council Members

Paul Smedberg

Citizen Count

5

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Abi Lerner. Abi gave an overview of the 2010 OTAPS Work Group which was successful exploring and making recommendations that were presented to City Council.

Welcome & Introduction

Abi Lerner welcomed all to the reconvened Old Town Area Parking Study (OTAPS) Work Group and introduced Faye Dastgheib as the Principal Transportation Parking Planner for the City of Alexandria.

Agenda

Introductions of Work Group, Meeting Agenda & Scheduling – Work Group members introduced themselves and indicated the organization they represent. The following Work Group members were absent:

- Andrew Blair
- Charlotte Hall
- Jody Manor
- Rob Kaufman

Purpose of Reconvening OTAPS Work Group – To continue its work on reviewing and making recommendations and implementation plans to present to Council on parking management in the Old Town area using the 2009 Old Town Parking Study and the Waterfront Small Area Plan recommendations.

OTAPS & Waterfront Recommendations Status Update

The 2010 OTAPS Work Group completed and implemented some of the parking initiatives from the 2009 Old Town Parking Study. City staff is implementing other recommendations. Short-term, medium-term and long-term recommendations and city-wide parking initiatives will be explored by the 2012 OTAPS Work Group.

➤ ***2010 OTAPS Work Group Implemented Recommendations***

- Wayfinding Signage – Installed new wayfinding signage
- Parking Meter Rate Increase - \$1/hour to \$1.75/hour
- Multi space Meters in Old Town – Replaced single space meters
- Extend Parking Meter Hours in Old Town (8am-7pm/ Mon-Sat)
- Guest Parking Permit APP – Residents of Resident Parking Permit Districts only can go online to purchase a 24-hour Guest Parking app four times per week. Guest parking for 25 hours or longer requires a visit to City Hall for a Visitor’s Permit.

➤ ***2010 OTAPS Work Group Recommendations in Progress***

- In July, a pilot will begin with 10 single space meters accepting credit cards
 - Pay By Phone which is a technological innovation that allows any driver parking in a metered space the option to pay via cell phone
 - Wayfinding Program Phase II will install “P” signs on City owned parking garages and encourage private garage owners to do the same
 - Improving parking information on City’s parking website
- ***Long-term Recommendations (require at least 2 years to complete)***
- Encourage private garage owners to add meters and extend hours
 - Open private garages to public
 - Evaluate the feasibility of providing real time parking information
 - Manage and monitor parking capacity through technology
 - Make garages more desirable through steps such as distance based pricing
 - Improve City owned parking garages
 - Use City owned facilities for valet parking
 - Market with partnership with others(ACVA, CoC, etc.) to disseminate parking information

➤ ***Short-Term Parking Recommendations to Explore***

OTAPS

- Consider residential parking protections from increased parking demand
- Set triggers for action to be taken to increase garage utilization or add garage parking capacity
- Introduce a two-year pilot employee permit parking program for employees using handicap placards

City Wide Parking Initiatives

- On street parking for carshare
- Bikeshare

Work Group Discussions

The work Group stated the following concerns/issues regarding parking in Old Town:

- Include APD Representative as Work Group Member

- Provide data for automobile ownership in City
- Assess spillover effect in residential neighborhoods
- On-street parking for residents: Resident should be able to park on street
- Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Data: Recommendations should be based on accurate RPP data such as percentage of households own a parking sticker and parking occupancy data in residential neighborhoods
- Consider resident ONLY Parking (pilot)
- Maintain consistency in time restrictions
- Central Business District boundaries and impact of Resident Only parking in business districts
- Assess impacts of the wayfinding program on garage parking utilization
- Status of the guest parking permit ordinance for residents of developments with DSUP conditions
- Special Parking Districts in Old Town
- Abuse of the guest Parking Permit Application
- Free on street parking: there are still some Free on some blocks
- The City should consider adding more municipal parking
- Impact of additional development along the waterfront
- Use of smart phone and other technologies in managing parking (i.e. wayfinding, payment , etc.)
- Consider Valet Parking as a tool to reduce congestion and utilize off-street parking facilities
- City should manage parking demand through appropriate policies
- Evaluate the City's parking Rate Structure
- Assess hours of Metered Parking
- Consider adding Meters in non-metered areas
- 72 hour parking rule: There needs to be a policy in place that differentiates between residents' vehicles and abandoned vehicles left on-street for more than 72 hours
- Improve the parking website by posting a map of all available parking garages online
- Consider metered Parking on side streets - adding meters to RPP blocks
- Assess parking policy for restaurants
- Evaluate time restrictions for Delivery Zones/Loading Zones & metered spaces
- Implications of Old Town parking policies on the rest of City
- Commercial Parking management strategies

Public Comments

The following concerns/issues were stated:

- Residents can't find parking in Residential Parking District Four – i.e., church activities
- The impact of decisions made as a result of the OTAPS Work Group on future Residential Parking District in Del Ray
- Traffic & Parking Board should be updated regarding OTAPS meetings
- Current RPP Maps should be updated
- Arlington ipark is a good example of a system that Arlington County uses to manage on-street parking.
- 20 parking spaces eliminated on 300 block of S. West Street due to opening of Jamieson Avenue thereby eliminating off street parking for those residents without driveways

- Insert OTAPS web link on all correspondence

Next Meeting

- The Work Group meeting time and day was changed to 5:30 pm on Tuesdays
- Discuss Residential Parking Permit (RPP) policies to discourage all-day parking by commuters
- Provide car ownership and occupancy data for residential districts in Old Town
- Compare parking issues and Residential Parking Permit policies of neighboring jurisdictions

Meeting Schedule

Date & Time		Meeting Topic
Monday	June 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kick off meeting
Tuesday	July 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussion of Residential Parking Permit (RPP)
Tuesday	July 31	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discussion of Residential Parking Permit (RPP)
Tuesday	Aug.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● City-wide employee handicapped permit program ● Adding meters in unmetered commercial areas
Tuesday	Aug. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set triggers for action to be taken to increase garage utilization or add garage parking capacity ● Bikeshare ● On-street carshare program
Tuesday (As needed)	Sep. 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TBD