

CITY OF SUNNYVALE
City Council Study Session Summary
Consideration of Non-Residential Parking Requirements
October 30, 2012

The City Council met in study session at City Hall in the West Conference Room, Sunnyvale, California on October 30, 2012, with Vice Mayor Whittum presiding.

City Councilmembers Present:

Mayor Anthony (Tony) Spitaleri
Vice Mayor David Whittum
Councilmember Christopher Moylan
Councilmember Jim Griffith
Councilmember Pat Meyering
Councilmember Tara Martin-Milius
Councilmember Jim Davis

City Councilmembers Absent: None

City Staff Present:

Gary Luebbers, City Manager
Michael Martello, Interim City Attorney
Robert Walker, Assistant City Manager
Trudi Ryan, Planning Officer
Diana O'Dell, Senior Planner

Visitors/Guests Present:

Barbara Fukumoto, Sustainability Commissioner
Dan Hafeman, Sustainability Commissioner
Russ Melton, Planning Commissioner

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Study Session Summary:

Diana O'Dell used a slide presentation to review the purpose of the study, the methodology, guiding principles and preliminary staff recommendations.

Councilmembers made comments and posed questions on the following topics:

QUANTITY

- What happens during peak (holiday parking) when there is more demand?

- Summer surveys may not address demand during peak periods.
- What is the value of including maximums?
- Is there a reason why “no minimum requirement” is not included?
- What are the bicycle parking of other cities, such as San Francisco.

PROCESS

- Why exceptions and not variances?

OTHER OPTIONS

- Is reserved parking for alternative fuel vehicles desirable; are there parking requirements for electric/hybrid vehicles?
- Should we “go further” and explore options for reduced parking based on location or dynamic pricing?
- Pay parking may work better in downtown or other TOD area; note that someone is paying for parking.

GENERAL COMMENTS

- Remember the relationship of parking regulations to Climate Action Plan.
- Does lack of parking contribute to empty storefronts?
- Efficiency alone is not enough, economic success needs to be considered.
- Will proposed changes to shopping center rates affect nearby residential areas?

Staff indicated that additional information would be provided on other cities’ bicycle requirements and the relationship of July parking demand to seasonal peak demand.

Public Comments:

- The City should consider incentives for parking structures
- A policy that goes even further to encourage walking and bicycling is desired.
- Consider design guidelines that encourage permeable pavement treatments, similar to Lowe’s.
- Perhaps less parking should be provided on El Camino Real because of available transit.
- Review the ordinance in 3-5 years for future enhancements and changes.

Adjournment: 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Trudi Ryan