

# Parking Committee Report to Commissioners



**AUGUST 17, 2018**

# REHOBOTH IN THE SUMMER



# The Committee



- Linda Kauffman – Chair
- Trey Krause
- Mark Saunders
- Joe Hill
- Jess Behringer
- Randy Mason
- Brian Barry
- Jeff Hamer

# The Basics



- **Mission statement**
  - **To enhance the viability of Rehoboth Beach by evaluating, researching, and recommending parking related issues to the City Commissioners**

# The Basics



- **Any solution will require consensus building and compromise. NO ONE item will be the solution, most of the solutions will not have unanimous support**

# The Basics



- **Parking and Transportation systems are vital components to Economic Development**
- **Nothing survives if you can't get to it or if you can't drive and park near it.**
- **Americans have a love affair with their cars. If they can't park within 1-2 blocks, "there is no parking"**
- **Mass transportation in the U.S. is not well received**

# The Basics



- It is not just parking, not just transportation, not just permits, not just meters, not just bicycles, not just traffic control devices, not just bike paths, not just pedestrian traffic, not just.....
  - **Each has to work in harmony with the other. No one thing can be looked at or changed without it having an effect on all the others**
- Understand that enforcement, policies, laws, and supply work together, not independently

# The Basics



- There is a finite amount of curb side parking
- Street widths can't easily be changed
- One way street patterns will typically not increase parking availability but will improve traffic flow in regards to delivery vehicles
- No open area large enough to support a structure
- Route 1 and surrounding development is impacting Rehoboth
- **PRICE AND CONVENIENCE DRIVES BEHAVIOR**



# The Basics



- **WHAT IS HAPPENING ON A DAILY BASIS IN REHOBOTH?**
  - Cars
  - Pedestrians
  - Bicycles
  - Scooters
  - Delivery vehicles
  - Service vehicles
  - Construction vehicles
  - Emergency vehicles
  - Local busses
  - Tour busses
  - Taxis, Uber, Lyft, Jolly Trolley, etc.

# The Basics



- **DEMAND GENERATORS on the infrastructure**
- **Retail**
- **The beach**
  - Day trippers
  - Out of town residents
  - Walkable communities
- **Restaurants**
- **Employees**

# The Basics



- DEMAND GENERATORS on the infrastructure
  - Deliveries
  - Construction
  - Services like trash and recycling and repairs
  - Residents
  - Renters
- ▶ **No one thing can be looked at or changed without it having an effect on all the others**

# The Basics



- Items to think about as we build consensus
- Who are the stakeholders?
- **IDENTIFY** the **KEY** issues and the **IMPACT** of any change
  - Cost
  - Availability
  - Shuttle use and convenience
  - Bike friendly routes
  - Route 1 development
  - Walking distance

# The Basics



- **WALKING DISTANCE FACTORS:**
  - Weather
  - Topography
  - Security issues/perception
  - Age of person
  - Carrying loads
  - Children
  - Trip Duration
  - Alternative Systems
  - Straight lines – line of sight
  - Cost

# ISSUES



- Too many vehicles and not enough parking – reality vs. perception
- Finite amount of curb side space
- Parking structures costly
- Lack of available land to create additional parking
- Home size changes resulting in more vehicles with no increase in parking requirements
- Lack of requirements to provide parking for some commercial ventures

# RECOMMENDATIONS



This is only the first phase of the Committee work

- What was reviewed:
  - Meters – times, season, cost, feeding, etc.
  - Permits – resident permits, time, cost, season
  - Commercial vehicles – Permit requirements and parity
  - Scooters – space allocation and permits
  - 30 minute meter spaces – criteria, locations and times of enforcement

# ISSUES - Meters



- Turnover
- Meter times and costs
  - Concert parking concept
- Length of season
- Clarity for location of short term meters



# ISSUES - Permits



- Length of season
- Times in effect during the day
- Cost of permits
- Issuance with Business Licenses
- Extra permits for rental houses
- Amount issued per household
- Scooter permits

# ISSUES – 30 Minutes Meters



- Lack of criteria for placement and removal
- Lack of clear labeling of spaces
- Too many clumped in one area

# ISSUES – Scooters



- Permit purchase requirement for home owners
- Placement of scooter spaces
- Additional space needs

# ISSUES – Commercial Vehicles



- Permit requirements
- Length of vehicles – statute vs. reality

# ISSUES - Meters



- Turnover
- Meter times and costs
  - Concert parking concept
- Length of season
- Clarity for location of short term meters

# RECOMMENDATIONS - Meters



- Enforce ‘feeding” in core areas
- Extend season May 1 – September 30
- Increase cost in core area to \$3.00 an hour
- Change hours of enforcement to 9 AM – 9 PM
- Vary pricing based on demand and desirability of location
- Vary length of time allowed based on surrounding needs
- Implement an informational campaign

# ISSUES - Permits



- Length of season
- Times in effect during the day
- Cost
- Issuance with Business Licenses
- Extra permits for rental houses
- Amount issued per household
- Scooter permits

# RECOMMENDATIONS - Permits



- Extend times and season to mirror meters
- Increase the cost of additional permits for rental properties – should be equal to annual permit fee
- Increase the cost of business licenses that include parking permits or eliminate the free permit
- Limit the amount of permanent permits issued per household – 2 permanent, 2 transferable, 2 scooter
- Extend free permits for residents to include scooters
- Streamline permit costs- too many variables
- Increase permit fees for daily, weekly, etc.
- Use technology to enforce



# ISSUES – 30 Minutes Meters



- Lack of criteria for placement and removal
- Lack of clear labeling of spaces
- Too many clumped in one area

# RECOMMENDATIONS – 30 Minute Meters



- Create criteria and process for placement and removal
- Evaluate current location and remove, move or add as needed
- Better mark spaces so patron knows it is a short term meter BEFORE pulling into the space
- Look at areas that have year round spaces and after 5 PM enforcement

# ISSUES – Scooters



- Permit purchase requirement for home owners
- Placement of scooter spaces
- Additional space needs

# RECOMMENDATIONS - Scooters



- Evaluate current placement of scooter spaces
- Create more spaces in critical areas of retail and beach
- Add spaces in areas where a vehicle can't fit
- Allow residents to receive scooter permits at no charge
- Promote the use of scooters. One vehicle space can accommodate 4-5 scooters

# ISSUES – Commercial Vehicles



- Permit requirements
- Length of vehicles – statute vs. reality

# RECOMMENDATIONS – Commercial Vehicles



- Require permits for all commercial vehicles parking in permit areas
  - Creates parity
- Enforce size restrictions or change size restriction

# RECOMMENDATIONS - General



- Change the parallel parking on King Charles Street to diagonal parking. Investigate other areas of the city
- Locate abandoned driveways and make those areas legal spaces rather than no parking areas
- Review all business license fees that include permits

# RECOMMENDATIONS



- Public Relations campaign
- Informational seminars/town hall meetings
- Change street signage to be more strategic and informational
- Parking brochures updated and distributed to all businesses, rental properties, Main Street, Chamber, etc.
- Enhance City website with parking information



# FUTURE TOPICS



- Amount of parking spaces required for residential dwellings
- Permit changes in residential areas to include possible alternate side parking and limited overnight parking
- Delivery vehicles/Loading and Unloading
- Special Events parking and Deauville Beach permits
- Shuttles and loop shuttle services
- Curb cut requirements
- Permit purchases on line or at kiosks
- Disabled Parking

# REHOBOTH DESTINY?



We haven't been out in it for 3 years in case he loses his parking space...

# Next Steps



- **Meet with Main Street?**
- **Meet with Chamber?**
- **Others- Home owner Associations**

# Questions

