

Duluth Parking Commission
Seventy-Fourth Meeting
7:30 a.m. Friday, September 6, 2019
City Council Chambers, Duluth City Hall

Members Present

- Andy Goldfine, President
- Dennis Jensen
- Noland Makowsky
- Jessica Sterle, Vice President
- Karin Swor
- Mark Bauer, Ex Officio

Members Absent

- Em Westerlund

Guests Present

- Carl Crawford, Human Rights Officer – City of Duluth
- Doug Melander, Duluth Operations Manager – Interstate Parking Company

Approval of August 2019 meeting minutes

Commissioner Karin Swor motioned that the August 2019 parking commission meeting minutes be approved as presented. Commission Vice President Jessica Sterle seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

On-street ADA parking zone requests

City of Duluth Parking Services Manager Mark Bauer presented two accessible parking signage requests for approval. He stated that he had consulted with the applicants and had performed site visits to the properties. He stated that he had not had an opportunity to inform the Commission on Disabilities of the applications yet but would do so in their next meeting. Mr. Bauer recommended approval of both applications. Commissioner Swor motioned that the application for 1928 East 1st Street be approved. Commissioner Dennis Jensen seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Commissioner Jensen motioned that the application for 622 North 1st Avenue East be approved. Commissioner Swor seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Proposal to convert two 80-minute meters on the zero block of West Superior Street to 15-minute meters

Mr. Bauer presented a proposal to convert two single-space 80-minute meters on the zero block of West Superior Street to 15-minute meters. He stated that the request had been generated by the Minnesota Power Employees' Credit Union, who had stated that their customers needed short-term parking availability adjacent to their office. Mr. Bauer stated that customer parking on the Michigan Street side of the Minnesota Power building had recently been eliminated and had created the new short-term parking need. Commissioner Jensen motioned that the proposal be approved. Commissioner Sterle seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Proposal to convert an 80-minute stall on the 400 block of West Superior Street to an ADA stall

Mr. Bauer presented a proposal to convert an 80-minute stall on the 400 block of West Superior Street to an ADA stall. He stated that the new space, located adjacent to the Ordean building, would serve the many clients with accessibility needs in the building. He stated that the new space would replace the one that was lost during the 2018 street redevelopment and that the City of Duluth engineering staff had designed an accessible ramp that would connect the stall to the building's entrance. Commissioner Jensen motioned that the proposal be approved. Commissioner Swor seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

Presentation of parking services division five-year plan for discussion

Mr. Bauer presented a draft of the parking division's five-year plan for discussion. Commissioner Makowsky recommended that moderation be exercised with regard to on-street parking pricing restructuring so that parking remains accessible to all. Mr. Bauer stated that a final version of the plan would be presented to the commission in an upcoming meeting so that the commission could discuss and potentially approve the plan.

Off-street parking update

Interstate Parking Company Duluth Operations Manager Doug Melander provided an update on off-street parking operations. He stated that the US Bank parking ramp, which is not a City-owned or operated facility, would soon be closed for renovations but that an exact timeframe had not yet been determined. He stated that current parking usage of Lot C was very low and that the lot could accept a number of monthly parkers displaced by the US Bank ramp project. Commissioner Makowsky inquired whether the US Bank ramp project could be delayed until the end of the Superior Street redevelopment project. Mr. Melander stated that he was not sure but would pass this concept along to the correct entities.

On-street parking update

Mr. Bauer provided an update on on-street parking operations. He stated that parking pay stations had been ordered for the phase two section of Superior Street and would be installed by the time the street reopens.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Bauer
Parking Services Manager