

Duluth Parking Commission  
Sixty-Ninth Meeting  
7:30 a.m. Friday, March 1, 2019  
City Council Chambers, Duluth City Hall

**Members Present**

- Andy Goldfine, President
- Kris Liljeblad
- Noland Makowsky
- Jessica Sterle, Vice President
- Em Westerlund
- Mark Bauer, Ex Officio

**Members Absent**

- Dennis Jensen
- Karin Swor

**Guests Present**

- Doug Melander, Duluth Operations Manager – Interstate Parking, Inc.

**Approval of February 2019 meeting minutes**

Commissioner Jessica Sterle motioned that the February 2019 parking commission meeting minutes be approved as presented. Commissioner Noland Makowsky 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 the City of Duluth Commission on Disabilities and had performed site visits to each property. Mr. Bauer recommended approval of both applications. Commissioner Westerlund motioned that the application for 3229 Chestnut Street be approved. Commissioner Makowsky seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Commissioner Makowsky motioned that the application for 2116 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street be approved. Commissioner Kris Liljeblad seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

**Proposal to convert Elizabeth Street to north-side-only parking**

Mr. Bauer presented a proposal to officially convert Elizabeth Street to north-side-only parking and to prohibit parking in the cul-de-sac at the street's terminus. He explained that the parking division believed that the street had previously been configured as north-side-only parking but had been unable to locate documentation of the configuration. He stated that the associated signage may have been lost following a recent redevelopment of the roadway. Mr. Bauer stated that one of the primary properties on the street had been given an incorrect address, an odd-numbered address, even though it is on the even side of the street, and that the simplest solution that would preserve road width and allow safe passage of service vehicles was to convert the street to one-sided parking. He stated that the parking division also recommended an official prohibition of parking in the cul-de-sac at the end of the street. Commissioner Westerlund stated that she would abstain from the vote due to a conflict of interest but provided information that residents and visitors to the building used a portion of the cul-de-sac as a drop-off zone. Mr. Bauer stated that the parking division would further study this portion of the recommendation and would follow up with the commission in a future meeting. Commissioner Sterle motioned that the proposed conversion of Elizabeth Street to north-side-only parking be approved and that the prohibition of parking in the cul-de-sac be tabled until further research could be conducted. Commissioner Liljeblad seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0 (Commissioner Westerlund abstaining).

### **Presentation of five-year parking services division plan draft**

Mr. Bauer presented a draft of a new five-year plan for the parking services division. The plan included general costs and timelines for projects such as the purchase of parking pay stations for phases two and three of the Superior Street redevelopment project, facility structural repairs, on- and off-street rate restructuring, on-street technology research, selection, and implementation, wayfinding improvements, a potential new video monitoring system for the ramps, possible off-street parking development in Lincoln Park, enhanced public outreach and education, off-street parking opportunities in Canal Park, and a potential variable messaging system for traffic and parking in downtown Duluth. Commission President Andy Goldfine recommended consideration of a variable demand pricing model for on-street parking. Commissioner Liljeblad indicated support for consideration of this concept. Commissioner Westerlund suggested that the parking division include a study of the potential for adding bicycle racks and motorcycle parking to the public parking facilities. Commissioners Liljeblad and Goldfine indicated support for these items, as well. Mr. Bauer stated that he would incorporate the ideas suggested by the commissioners into the five-year plan and would follow up with the commission as the plan progresses.

### **Off-street parking update**

Interstate Parking Company Duluth Operations Manager Doug Melander provided an update on off-street parking operations. He stated that Interstate and the parking services division would soon be meeting with their structural engineering consultant to plan ramp structural repairs for 2019. He stated that snow removal operations had been going smoothly despite the heavy snow season. Mr. Melander clarified Interstate's policy on release of video to private parties, stating that such request must go through the police department or another official channel. He finished by indicating support for the study on adding motorcycle parking areas to off-street facilities.

### **Meeting adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Bauer  
Parking Operations Specialist