



CITY OF HARRISONBURG
**PUBLIC
WORKS**

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TO: Eric Campbell, City Manager
FROM: Thomas Hartman, PE, Director of Public Works
DATE: April 27, 2021
RE: Presentation on Time Changes for City Owned Downtown Parking Lots

Summary:

The Department of Public Works will present numerous changes to the time limits for City owned parking lots located in Downtown Harrisonburg.

Background:

In April 2020, the City completed the Downtown Parking Plan that presented 9 actions that could be taken to improve parking within Downtown. One of the recommended actions was to simplify the on and off-street parking time limits. The recommendation included adding a 4-hour time limit to several parking lots, removing 10-hour parking from lots near commercial areas, and increasing long-term (permit) parking spaces.

As shown in the attached power point presentation changes will be made to the following City owned Downtown Parking lots:

- N. Liberty Street Parking Lot
- Liberty Park Parking Lot
- Clark and Bradshaw Parking Lot
- Elizabeth Street Parking Deck
- WHSV Parking Lot
- Water Street Parking Lot
- Newman Avenue Parking Lot
- S. Main Street Parking Lot
- Hardesty-Higgins House Parking Lot
- Water Street Parking Deck
- Municipal Parking Lot
- Harrison House Parking Lot
- On-Street Parking along Liberty Street and S. Main Street

The presentation shows the time limit changes to each parking lot, and the quantity of each type in the parking lots.

In addition to the time limit changes we have also performed an ADA parking space inventory and are increasing the ADA spaces on a few parking lots to meet current ADA standards.

Public Works plans to begin implementing these changes starting in May 2021 and will be complete by mid-August 2021. However, due to the number of impacted parking lots and number of signs that will need to be modified a phased implementation will be used. We will make changes to the parking lots in this order:

1. On-Street Parking along Liberty Street and S. Main Street
2. Clark and Bradshaw and Harrison House Parking Lots
3. Hardesty-Higgins House Parking Lot
4. S. Main Street, Newman Avenue, Water Street, and WHSV Parking Lots
5. N. Liberty Street and Liberty Park Parking Lots
6. Water Street and Elizabeth Street Parking Decks and the Municipal Parking Lot

The cost for these changes has been estimated and funds within the current FY21 budget have been identified to cover the cost of these changes.

Key Issues:

These time limit changes were recommended by our parking consultant DESMAN and are in line with best practices within the parking industry. These changes are meant to improve usage of the City's parking lots by providing the appropriate time limits in the correct lots for the surrounding uses.

Environmental Impact:

N/A

Fiscal Impact:

Costs for implementation have been identified in the current FY21 budget.

Prior Actions:

Downtown Parking Plan

Alternatives:

N/A

Community Engagement:

The following was the engagement related to the Downtown Parking Plan

- Stakeholder group meetings with downtown property owners, downtown business owners, and downtown residents was held on July 31 and August 1 of 2019.
- A Public Meeting to discuss existing conditions and how the report would be developed was held on August 28, 2019.
- An online survey to solicit public input on their parking behaviors and perceived shortfalls with parking was hosted by the City and 1,117 responses were received.
- A Public Meeting to discuss issues discovered by DESMAN and potential options for addressing the issues was held January 22, 2020.

Recommendation:

N/A

Attachments:

1. Presentation

Review: