

TPC 08.14.13
ITEM G.1.
HAND-OUT

Benishek-Clark, Anne

From: Sachi Komai [srkomai@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2013 4:08 PM
To: Benishek-Clark, Anne
Cc: Mary Carbine; A Room of One's Own Bookstore
Subject: The GSSBA supports short-term parking

The Greater State Street Business Association supports the proposal to expand short-term parking at the State Street Capitol Garage. Such an expansion would encourage our loyal customers to continue to buy local and reintroduce the downtown area to residents who have fled to the malls for their parking convenience. Many of our customers complain that they have to spend \$5 cash for special event parking on days when they simply want to pick up a book they had on order, buy a birthday card or catch up with a friend over coffee. A range of times--from 25 minutes to 2 hours--would be most helpful for our customers.

Unlike malls that house national chain stores, 85% of State Street area businesses are locally owned, which means that 68% of the money spent at these restaurants and shops stays in the city, recirculating between five and eight times. City coffers are far better served (and filled) when we encourage such commerce.

We as merchants hope to contribute to a lively and unique downtown; we hope to partner with the city in making the the area convenient, accessible and customer-friendly.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sachi Komai

President, Greater State Street Business Association