

Dear Committee Member,

I am here today to urge you to expand the enforcement time at street meters in a two block radius of the State St. business area when you increase the event parking to \$8 and more. We would like the meters to be enforced until 10pm Monday to Sat, and noon to 5pm on Sunday to keep those spaces available to our customers who are not attending events.

The reason I and other retailers on the street wish for this change is that the increase cost of ramp parking during events will be a burden to our customers that will be stopping downtown for a short time to shop or dine. If the street parking is enforced until 10pm Mon. to Sat. and noon to 5pm on Sundays that will give our customers a place to park at a lower rate than in the city parking ramps on event days and allow for more turnover in parking on the street. Longer hours of enforcement would also drive more event goers into the ramps since they would risk a \$25.00 ticket if they parked longer than 2hr. which most meter are. Most event start at 7:30 and a few at 8pm or 2pm on Sunday.

In 2015, there were 272 events that required event parking. Some were on the same day, so the total days that there was event parking in effect was 157 (40% of the year). The Orpheum was not open until late in the year, so I am sure this number of events is even higher for 2016. Of these days, 80% of them fall on Fri, Sat or Sun, also the busiest days for downtown shopping. Every Fri, Sat and Sun during the holiday shopping month of December has event parking.

In addition to the event parking, increases in residents parking overnight starting at 6pm is taking up more and more of the spaces in the business area during business hours. As more living units become available this will increase. (The Hub was built with less than 1 parking space per resident.) Most shops and restaurants are open later than 6 PM and need this parking to turn over during business hours. Many residents can purchase parking in the buildings where they live or overnight at city ramps, but why would they do that if street parking is free after 6 PM? From the view of businesses, free often means no parking or parking for a very few.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sandi Torkildson, A Room of One's Own Bookstore
John Hayes, Goodman's Jewelers
Sean Scannell, Soap Opera
Pam McCord, Tutto Pasta
Lori Henn, Fair Trade Coffee Shop
Community Pharmacy Cooperative
Four Star Video Cooperative
Steve Heaps, The Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream
Mimosa Books and Gifts
Amy Moore, Little Luxuries
Sarah Wilcox, Serrv Fair Trade