

OLD NORTH DAVIS
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

October 5, 2018

Mike Webb, City Manager
City of Davis
23 Russell Boulevard
Davis, CA 95616

Dear Mike,

The Old North Davis neighborhood has long had one of the most unique parking districts in the city. A number of street parking spaces are delineated and reserved for N permit holders (restricted to residents) from 8-5 on weekdays while the majority of parking spaces are unrestricted. These other spaces serve visitors and employees of the downtown and students and staff at the university. We recently have had positive communication with parking enforcement staff within the Police Department in response to our inquiry about how the new license plate recognition system has affected the District.

As part of our board's discussion, it was noted that the marking for some N district spaces have eroded to the point that may limit enforcement. We would be happy to provide a list if such spaces if that is helpful. We are also aware that some residents would like to relocate some of the N spaces and ask whether such actions could be accommodated.

However, In addition to these ministerial actions, we ask if there would be benefit in marking all potential parking spaces within the district (that is, both restricted N spaces and all other parking locations). We realize the city has great interest in providing adequate parking in the downtown while being hesitant to invest in additional parking structures. We believe such additional markings could help to prevent individuals from parking across sidewalks, driveways, etc. Some believe this approach may have the potential to generate revenue that could be invested in some of the traffic management infrastructure needed in our neighborhood. As we have previously written, we have great concerns about the safety of D Street between 5th and 8th Streets. Previous reports have also highlighted the lack of ADA infrastructure within many of our sidewalks which is exacerbated by the high crowns in our aging streets.

Given that such an approach seems to support some of the parking strategies considered as part of the new Downtown Davis Plan, we hope this letter can serve to open a conversation about how parking management in our district may assist both the city and our neighborhood manage our parking resources.

Best regards,



Marilyn Underwood

President

Old North Davis Neighborhood Association
532 C Street

c: Community Development Director Tschudin
Public Works Director Clarke
Police Services Specialist Supervisor Hardy



PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
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November 2, 2018

Marilyn Underwood
President
Old North Davis Neighborhood Association
532 C Street
Davis, CA 95616

Dear Ms. Underwood,

Thank you for your letter to City Manager Mike Webb of October 5, 2018. I am responding on his behalf because the topics of parking and traffic calming you discussed are both issues the Public Works Department is charged with handling.

I have asked our Transportation staff to look at the condition of the N-Permit markings and make a recommendation for maintenance. Your letter noted you could provide a list of the spaces most in need of attention – we would appreciate receiving your list to assist in determining the scope involved in this effort. You also indicated some residents would like to see the N-Permit space marked in a different location and I will appreciate knowing which locations those are and where the desired relocation area is for each.

The idea of marking the remaining parking areas within the neighborhood to provide better guidance to drivers to help ensure vehicles are parked in appropriate places was noted and I have asked staff to quantify the magnitude of this concept and estimate a cost to do so. The thought by some of your members that additional permit parking in the neighborhood could provide a revenue source for improvements has been looked at in the past and determined not to be viable unless a significantly higher cost is charged for permits. While this idea is not presently being considered, it is important to keep it in mind as the community conversation on parking in and near Downtown continues and a scenario is possible where this might become viable.

The concern about safety on D Street has been referred to our Traffic Calming Program and is in a queue of almost 100 neighborhood requests throughout the City. The Program has slowed with the vacancy of our Traffic Engineer, but we expect to begin working soon through the backlog of requests and prioritizing requests for improvements with the annual \$100,000 budget, the City Council has approved for the Program. With the significant backlog, I expect this will take us many months to work through, but we will make you aware of the status as soon as we have made a determination.

The lack of ADA infrastructure is a challenge in all of the older neighborhoods in Davis and in all communities. The City brings ADA ramps and street crossings into compliance in one of two

ways; most usually, it is addressed as part of our street pavement maintenance projects, and alternatively we have a small annual budget of \$100,000 to address deficiencies in spot locations. A typical ADA ramp improvement can range from \$3,000 to \$10,000 per location depending on the setting. Obviously, we are not able to address many ramps in any given year. The challenge of the high crowns you mention is prevalent in the oldest neighborhoods in Davis and pose costly choices. To lower the crown on the road requires the removal of significantly more roadway material and in addition to increased roadwork costs, often leads to utility conflicts with PG&E lines that do not have adequate cover to meet their codes. As a result, there is an added cost of utility relocation. As a result, we have typically not pursued flattening out the high crowns on our older roads.

I appreciate your offer to open a dialogue about how parking in the Old North Davis Neighborhood could be a mutually beneficial idea as the idea of permit parking in the areas surrounding Downtown is a recommendation the City Council adopted in our Downtown Parking Master Plan. While this idea is not a current effort of staff's, I expect we may be ready to begin talking about it in 2019 and will reach out to you when we are ready to focus our energy on that idea.

While I don't have immediate actions I can report to you that will address the issues you raised, I will be in touch in the next month, or two after staff have had time to evaluate the magnitude of re-marking the N-Permit spaces and quantify the effort and value of marking other parking spaces within the Neighborhood. I would also note that we are beginning the triennial effort to perform a comprehensive pavement condition survey and update our pavement maintenance database. When we have this completed early next calendar year, we will be able to estimate when the streets in Old North Davis are expected to see a pavement maintenance project.

Feel free to continue sharing your neighborhood's issues and concerns regarding parking and street safety with me any time. I can be reach at bclarke@cityofdavis.org or by phone at (530) 757-5686.

Respectfully,

Bob Clarke
Director of Public Works