



November 17, 2017

The City of Fredericksburg Parking Advisory Committee met November 16. The following is a summary of discussions held during that meeting. No formal action was taken on any of these topics, pending further discussion at future meetings.

College Avenue

The members discussed parking on both sides of College Avenue. There was a consensus to at least postpone and the establishment of short term parking on the east (UMW campus) side of College Avenue. A majority of the group, however, desires to provide some form of protection from completely unrestricted on street parking (as is the current situation) to the residents of the west side of College Avenue between William Street and Jefferson Davis Highway. The majority considers these residents to be part of the College Heights neighborhood and that they need to be treated as such when future decisions are made on parking restrictions in that neighborhood.

Parking Restrictions in the College Heights and College Terrace Neighborhoods

The members discussed this issue at length and agreed to consider alternatives to a resident permit parking system that would make the streets in the neighborhood completely off limits to the general public (including UMW faculty, staff and students.). A majority of the Committee believes, however, that any system must provide residents with a greater opportunity to park near their homes during peak high parking demand periods and must also provide protections from long term (multiple day) parking in the neighborhood by those who do not reside in the neighborhood.

One option discussed was to have the streets in the neighborhoods signed “ X Hour Parking Except by Permit” (with the “X” to be decided after further discussion) with only the residents of the neighborhoods qualifying for the permits. If this approach were adopted, it would allow public parking on neighborhood streets, but likely a lower volume than currently, since only those non-residents needing to park for a period less than the time restriction would be able to park there without risking a citation. Residents with permits would not be subject to the time restrictions. One other characteristic of this approach would be that residents’ visitors would be permitted to park, without a visitor permit, up to the time limit. (Residents would still be able to obtain visitor permits for visitors needing to park for a longer period.) This approach would also address residents’ concerns about multiple day parking by non-residents, since the longer a vehicle was parked on a neighborhood street, the more likely that it would receive one or more citations for violating the time restrictions.

Access/Egress – Alvey Parking Garage and Surface Lots Parallel to Sunken Road

The Committee discussed the current access/egress situation for the Alvey Parking Garage and the adjacent surface lots near the north end of the UMW campus. Currently, parkers must access these facilities containing 668 parking spaces only from Jefferson Davis Highway and must exit the facilities to Jefferson Davis Highway (with a right turn only at the intersection of Alvey Drive and Jefferson Davis Highway.) The need for a second means of access/egress for these facilities is acknowledged. However, the members of the Committee are also mindful of the increase in traffic that will result in the College Terrace neighborhood from opening the currently closed gate between Sunken Road and the surface lots and will need to further discuss mitigating these impacts before arriving at any conclusions about this issue.

All of these matters will be discussed further at the next meeting of the Committee on December 14. Only after that discussion (and perhaps additional discussions at subsequent meetings) will the Committee be prepared to adopt formal recommendations to the City Council related to these matters.

Contact for Questions/Comments:

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