



2012 Parking Think Tanks

Southern (20 September 2012)

The third session of the 2012 Parking Think Tank series convened in the Southern area of Washington, DC on 20 September 2012 from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM at the Anacostia Public Library Community Room at 1800 Good Hope Road, S.E. The minutes contained represent a summary of the session's discussion. The following individuals were in attendance:

Public (24):

DDOT Staff (5):

Parking Think Tank Presentation

Starting promptly at 6:35 PM, Mr. Angelo Rao convened the Southern session of the 2012 Parking Think Tanks series. Mr. Rao provided an overview of the Think Tank purpose, population and mobility demographics, historical parking framework, and outlined the structure of the community conversations in five topic areas (metered parking, commercial parking, parking regulations (resident and activity center focuses), and general parking issues). After concluding his presentation, Mr. Rao responded to questions from the public regarding the content of his presentation and the process. At 7:05 PM, the public was asked to convene into a breakout session of their choice.

Community Conversation: Metered Parking

What is Working:

- Credit card option
- Disabled meter program working
- Like receipt → documentation
 - Multi-space meter receipt

Improvement Areas:

- Skipping coins
- Plan for new metered spaces



- Broken meters – distance to walk for receipt
- Phone part of pay by cell does not work
- Better signage on parking meters
- Ticketing beyond ‘specified time’
 - Better collaboration

Community Conversation: Commercial Parking

What is Working:

- There are some places for non-residents to park on street all day
 - Sometimes to take metro to go to other parts of the District
- Alley network for loading/unloading
- We could build more downtown parking lots to enable development
 - Would enable more off-street parking and reducing tickets by other revenue
- Where transit is good, parking isn’t as big of an issue
 - Specific mention of Circulator route in Anacostia connecting to downtown.

Improvement Areas:

- Delivery trucks on street / middle of street
 - 14th and L Streets NW
 - Limit hours for loading
 - Encourage night / weekend delivery
- High parking costs make people shop elsewhere (like Maryland and Virginia)
- Late night parking enforcement discourages people from coming to the District
 - Need more information about parking rules and enforcement
- More transit connections from Southeast to Downtown

Community Conversation: Parking Regulations (Resident Focus)

What is Working:

- Multi-space meters are good

Improvement Areas:

- Car2Go – taking too many spaces on residential streets adjacent to Marbury Plaza (large apt complex)
 - Allow vehicles to park in private space and not take up limited residential parking



- Shaw area Resident Parking only until midnight – this restriction is not fair to those who must go to conduct business (dentist office, etc.) in this area
- RPP too expensive
 - Waive for seniors and disabled
 - Lower cost
- Too many out of state cars (XXXX Minnesota Ave SE)
- Parking lines on 8th Street NE (requested that parking spaces be lined so that cars didn't take up too many spaces)
- Remove unnecessary driveway signage (XXXX 8th Street NE)
- Survey issues couldn't end the survey (BP responded)
- Universal parking pass – so that residents who pay taxes can park anywhere in the District.
- Fines too high – speed cameras are unfair because they are set too low – you get a ticket for going 1 mile over the limit of 10 miles over the speed limit (really)

Community Conversation: Parking Regulations (Activity Center Focus)

What is Working:

- Historic parking process (Historic successes)
 - Short term parking
- All day Saturday/Sunday parking
- No restrictive parking

Improvement Areas:

- Lost community cooperation
 - Require more community input
- Need Saturday / Sunday parking
 - Weddings
 - Funerals
- Circulating traffic for parking
- Stop coming and adversely affecting local revenue
- Economic power sustained
- ANC – process of cooperation
 - Mobility issues
 - Enhanced Notice of Intent process
 - Broader affected areas



- Users of the community
- Parking regulations adjust by petition process
 - Could be improved – public forum

Community Conversation: General Parking

What is Working:

Improvement Areas:

- Ticketing
 - Parking meter officers should have more discretion/ more flexibility using technology (handheld ticketing machines)
 - Violation fines should get attention of the user, but not burden them financially
 - Violation fines should better reflect violation
 - Increase monitoring and accountability of individual parking meter officers – and their ticketing records
- Signage
 - Ensure consistency on the same block :
 - Regulations
 - Signs
 - Condense signage (too many signs per u-pole)
 - Perform Sign Inventory / Audit
 - Remove old, outdated, damaged signs
 - Conflicting regulations (and signs) should be reconciled
- Parking and Public Space (Conflicts)
 - On-street space - car parking and bike parking
 - Increase bike parking citywide

Community Conversation: Session Reporting

At 7:35 PM, Mr. Rao reconvened the Southern session of the 2012 Parking Think Tanks series from the breakout sessions. Facilitators from each session reported on the major (3-5) findings within their breakout session. Upon the conclusion of the reports, Mr. Rao advised residents to keep abreast on the Parking Think Tank series progress via the DDOT website or to contact him with additional comments, questions, or concerns. Additionally, Mr. Rao asked that those in attendance complete an online parking survey. The session was adjourned at 8:00 PM.