



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
DOWNTOWN PARKING
COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

Date: *Thursday, September 8, 2022*

Time: 7:30 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING

**David Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101**

Committee Members Present:	Trey Pinner (Chair), Ed France (Vice-Chair), Matt LaBrie, Sean Pratt, Barbara Silver, Ruben Zarate
Committee Members Absent:	Andrew Newkirk
Staff Present:	Brian Bosse (Public Works Downtown Team Manager), Sarah Clark (Downtown Plaza and Parking Manager), Roy Forney (Parking Supervisor), Mark Nunez (Facilities Maintenance Supervisor), Clifford M. Maurer (Public Works Director), Ethan Pitney (Accounting Assistant), Chelsey Swanson (Project Planner), Nammi Vuong (Administrative Specialist), Steve Sisler (Traffic Technician)
Public Comment:	Robin Elander, Downtown Santa Barbara

- CALL TO ORDER** Chair Pinner called the meeting to order at 7:31 A.M.
- ROLL CALL** All Committee Members present, Committee Member Newkirk – excused absence
- CHANGES TO AGENDA** None.
- PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
- APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 14, 2022**
Motion made by: Committee Member Silver **Second:** Committee Member Pratt
Vote: Yeas: 6 Nays: Abstain: Absent: 1
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Sarah Clark introduced new committee secretary, Nammi Vuong.
- BUDGET AND OPERATIONS UPDATE**
RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee receive an update on parking operations and trends in revenues and expenditure.

Sarah Clark gave a presentation on how the rate increase impacted City parking garages. Occupancy rates and time duration remain consistent with last year's numbers and there hasn't been a decline in transactions compared to last year. For July and August of Fiscal Year 2023,

revenues exceed expenditures by \$151k and \$386K, respectively.

Committee Comments: Committee member LaBrie commended the City for hosting Fiesta without incurring excessive additional cost. Chair Pinner inquired about a maximum ticket price and was concerned about the possibility of customers claiming a lost ticket to pay the \$20 fee instead. Mr. Forney explained that there is no maximum fee and confirmed that it could be a possibility. Chair Pinner requested the occupancy rates for pre-pandemic years for a better comparison.

Public Comments: None.

8. REVENUE CONTROL SYSTEM UPGRADES

RECOMMENDATION: That the Committee receive a report and recommend that City Council approve the appropriation of funds for purchase of EMV readers for parking kiosks.

Roy Forney gave a presentation to ask DPC to recommend to Council to approve the appropriation of funds to purchase 18 EMV readers for \$61,385 at the parking kiosks. The current card readers are currently only installed at exit columns. Expanding the credit card readers to the parking kiosks will improve employee safety, payment collection, and expand our customer service.

Committee Comments: Committee Member Silver inquired if it will impact the assistants at the kiosks and what would happen during slow periods. Mr. Forney explained that the City will continue to operate under a hybrid model with automation during non-peak hours. Committee Member Pratt inquired about the high pricing. Mr. Forney explained that it was due to the model of the readers which ensures protecting customer identity and immediate transaction between the EMV reader and banks. Committee member Zarate expressed concern about whether the readers are still necessary with the increase in use of the SWEB mobile app. Mr. Forney shared that while payment through the web app is increasing, there is still a need for the EMV readers as over 60% of current transactions come from credit card payments upon exit. Committee Member LaBrie inquired the differences between the City's parking garages and Paseo Nuevo, which is almost fully automated. Mr. Forney shared that Paseo Nuevo has a different customer base, fewer special events, fewer pay stations present, and multi-lane exits that factor into their full automation which the City garages do not have. Mr. Forney also noted how Paseo Nuevo still has staff present during peak hours.

Public Comment: None.

Motion made by: Committee Member LaBrie **Second:** Committee Member Silver

Vote: Yeas: 6 Nays: Abstain: Absent: 1

9. PROGRAM UPDATES

- a) **Lot 3 Paseo** – Chelsey Swanson, Project Planner, gave an update on the Lot 3 Paseo Relocation Project (Project). The Project went before the HLC on August 31 and did not receive support. The HLC wants City Staff to revisit older scopes that unify the Paseo and keep it open. City Staff will be reconvening to discuss how to move forward.
 - **Committee Comments:** Committee Member Pinner expressed concern on whether to continue to prioritize this Project. Committee Member LaBrie expressed support for the Project as it's an important avenue for parking customers.
 - **Public Comments:** None.
- b) **State Street Promenade Update** – Brian Bosse, Downtown Team Manager, gave an update on the State Street Promenade. An update will also be given to City Council on September 20, 2022. City Council will receive the update that City Staff is working with a consultant to ensure ADA compliance in parklets and the State Street Ad Hoc subcommittee discussed moving design guidelines into requirements to improve the interim look of State Street. In addition, the future of parades on State Street, whether parklets be portable, and determining a fee structure for

facilities in the public right of way will be discussed at Council as part of the update.

- **Committee Comments:** None.
- **Public Comments:** Robin Elander, Downtown Santa Barbara. Ms. Elander shared that Downtown Santa Barbara is initiating pilot activities, such as music performances and block parties, to test out how these activities work and help to inform the development of the State Street Master Plan. Mr. Bosse commented that City Staff is working with Downtown Santa Barbara and other entities on additional pilot activities on the Promenade.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 8:38 A.M.

Committee Mission Statement: To enhance the economic vitality of the Downtown area, by advising the City on policy of operation and maintenance of the City's parking facilities and on-street parking supply, in order to optimize the usefulness to customers and visitors that shop and work in the Downtown Business District.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: If you need auxiliary aids or services or staff assistance to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact Sarah Clark, 805-564-5656. If possible, notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will usually enable the City to make reasonable arrangements. Specialized services such as sign language interpretations or documents in Braille may require additional lead time to arrange.

AGENDAS, MINUTES & REPORTS: The next regular meeting of the Downtown Parking Committee is scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 7:30 a.m. Copies of documents relating to agenda items are available for review in the Downtown Parking Offices at 1221 Anacapa St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101, and agendas and reports are also posted online at: <https://santabarbaraca.gov/downtown-parking-committee/downtown-parking-committee-documents>