Planning Goals and Objectives

Park Cars Conveniently Without Attracting More Cars

**[commercial]**

Drivers and commercial business owners routinely complain about the lack of parking near shops. Homeowners routinely complain about people parking on residential streets. Renters complain about the lack of on-street parking near their residence. Retailers want to minimize the friction any customer might face finding their way to the store. Convenient parking plays a crucial role in the success of attracting drive by shoppers. It is no accident that franchise food restaurants and convenience stores favor corner locations surrounded by small seas of parking spaces. Services and shops that cater to destination customers do not require that parking be visible and abundant – but adequate and accessible.

Many commercial establishments conduct business during daytime hours when most residents take their cars to work. The residential parking is empty as demand for local commercial parking increases. Developing commercial districts that combine residential and commercial buildings offers the opportunity to create shared parking areas that customers can use during daytime business hours and that residents can use to park their cars over night.

**[residential]**

ago before the automobile established dominance in the urban landscape. Newly constructed multifamily building include parking spaces for cars. Requiring two spaces per residential unit reduces demand for on street parking, but also reduces the amount of space available for living space. Also, providing too plentiful parking may also discourage reliance on public transit.

The parking signs in Oak Park are confusing. New signs were installed and the old signs weren’t taken down.

- studio, 12-04-02

All parking garages are ugly. They will only attract more cars and congestion.

- public meeting, 4-3-03

**[municipal]**

The two (commercial) districts have inadequate parking. I only go there mid-day when parking will be free. Otherwise, I go elsewhere.

- volunteer sheet, 9-18-02

A parking garage is a better solution than removing buildings for surface parking.

- charrette, 4-3-02

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- studio, 12-04-02

Residential parking on Oak Park Avenue south of the Eisenhower is a big issue, and slots allocated for businesses are underutilized.

- studio, 12-04-02

The Oak Park comprehensive plan indicates parking priority: 1- Residents, 2- Businesses and 3- Commuters. Parking in Oak Park is not designed to accommodate commuters.

- studio, 10-9-02

Lalo’s Restaurant on Oak Park Avenue

UIC photo

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Any parking improvement will help in the long-run.

- studio, 12-04-02