

**Mayor Tracey Furman**

**Council Member Darin Bartram  
Council Member Nate Engle**



**Council Member Conor Crimmins  
Council Member Ann Lichter**

**Parking Task Force Meeting  
January 7, 2025  
7:30pm via Zoom**

**Attendees:** Council Member Ann Lichter, Council Member Conor Crimmins, Mayor Tracey Furman, Mary Jo Moon, Joe Campbell, Sandy Wasden, Judy Beach Uhlman, Jordan Gray, Susan Gerson, Courtney Thornton, Nora Belt, Tyler Whitmore

**Agenda:**

1. Discussion with Montgomery County Parks & Planning's Parking Division Staff about parking management strategies, tactics, and lessons learned
  - 1.1. A power outage affecting Benjamin Morgan, a key participant from the County parking division, prevented him from attending the meeting. Conor Crimmins will reschedule another time to meet via Zoom.
2. Discussion of draft Mission Statement and Guiding Principles for the Parking Task Force
  - 2.1. Conor shared the draft mission statement and guiding principles for the task force, which were developed with input from various sources. The group discussed the principles, with Tyler questioning the inclusion of visitors in the community integration aspect. Conor clarified that the aim was to gather feedback from residents, business owners, and visitors to improve parking solutions.
  - 2.2. Conor discusses the need to engage a parking management consultant and conduct community outreach events to gather input on parking issues. Sandra asks about an online map showing public parking lots, which the town currently lacks but plans to create and keep updated based on agreements with private lot owners. Tracy highlights the importance of having written agreements to use private lots for public parking.
  - 2.3. The task force discussed the draft of the guiding principles for the town's future development. Ann suggested incorporating the concept of livability and mobility into the community integration section, emphasizing the need for pedestrian-friendly and bike-friendly neighborhoods.
  - 2.4. Joe proposed a map of town parking as a helpful guide.
  - 2.5. The task force also agreed to remove redundant language from the mission statement. Jordan raised a concern about the order of priorities, questioning whether the needs of businesses should come before those of residents. The task force agreed to continue refining the document and to revisit it for further input.
  - 2.6. The task force discussed the order of priorities in their parking recommendations, with a focus on balancing the needs of residents and businesses. Joe Campbell suggested flipping the order

to emphasize residents first, while Judy and Jordan agreed that the business district's issues were causing problems in the residential areas.

- 2.7. Jordan proposed rewording the recommendations to appeal to the larger community, with residents first, before businesses. The task force also discussed the need for a more comprehensive approach to parking issues, considering not only business and residential areas but also other community needs.
- 2.8. The committee discussed the need for a comprehensive approach to address parking issues in the town, considering both residential and commercial areas. They agreed to focus on balancing parking throughout the town, rather than just in specific areas.
- 2.9. The importance of community integration, walkability, livability, and multimodal connectivity was emphasized, with a particular focus on improving bicycle access and safety. The committee also discussed the need to address outdated parking signs and ensure proper parking distances from corners.
- 2.10. Conor and Joe were tasked with reordering and reprioritizing the balance and equity section to better reflect these goals.
- 2.11. In the meeting, Conor, Ann, and the task force discussed their progress on a working draft to present to the rest of the council. They agreed to send the draft around for review and plan to present it the following day.

### **3. Tasks for Next Meeting/Next Steps**

- 3.1. The task force also discussed the posting of meeting minutes on the town's website, with Conor providing a walkthrough on how to access these.
- 3.2. Conor and Ann reminded everyone about the upcoming town council meeting on January 8, 2025.
- 3.3. Conor stated that he would coordinate with Montgomery County Park and Planning's Parking Division staff on a new date and time for a conversation on parking management, tactics, strategies, and lessons learned.