

Downtown Parking Advisory Committee – Recommendations to City Council

On January 28, 2014, Loveland City Council appointed a [Downtown Parking Advisory Committee \(“DPAC”\)](#) to identify issues and solutions for improving downtown parking conditions. The committee was charged with identifying short-, mid-, and long-term actions to address parking management and supply. The DPAC held monthly meetings between March 2014 and December 2014, from which several parking issues were discussed.

On December 17, 2014, the committee met and identified the following recommendations to be forwarded to City Council:

1. Create a new Downtown Parking Management Plan.

A downtown parking management plan document will address immediate to long-term management strategies as development downtown continues to create a distinctly urban, compact, walk-able mixed use district as currently envisioned through the city’s Comprehensive Plan. The plan should include a focused, comprehensive strategy for managing both on-street/off-street provisions that will result in readily available customer parking to support downtown merchants; and develop strategies and solutions for daily long-term parking needs downtown to support the needs of both residents and visitors that will direct and resolve existing and future conflicts.

2. Endorse and adopt the parking inventory, parking restrictions and parking lot names, and incorporate into the city’s Downtown Parking Plan, with modifications noted as stated in the minutes above.

PARKING INVENTORY - In addition to on-street parking, the City provides off-street parking in several surface lots distributed across the Downtown area. There is no charge for the use of either on-street spaces or spaces in the surface lots. The current parking system within the downtowns area consists of 52 on-street spaces and 323 off-street spaces in public lots for a total of 375 parking spaces. ***NOTE: Once the parking lot at the McCoy property and Loveland Station are constructed, an additional 268 public spaces will be added to the inventory for a total of 643 spaces.***

PARKING RESTRICTIONS - The DPAC recommendation to have three parking term categories (short, mid, & long-term). The limits assigned to each should be 2 hour maximum (short-term), 4 hour maximum (mid-term) and more than 4 hours (long-term). Only on-street parking would be classified as “short-term”. The lots at McCoy and the VFW would be classified as “long-term”. All other lots in downtown would be classified as “mid-term”.

PARKING LOT NAMES – The committee suggests that each public lot in downtown have a name, number or some kind of reference. The committee did not make a recommendation thus deferring this matter for further discussion.

3. Endorse and adopt the Wayfinding plan (*this would include city taking the lead in funding and maintaining way finding in ROW & on city property*) and incorporate into the Downtown Parking Plan.
4. Endorse and facilitate (and as a property owner the city join) establishment of a Special Improvement District to implement (among other things)
 - a. Parking plan management, possibly including parking meters
 - b. Wayfinding on private properties
 - c. Decorative/wayfinding lighting & streetscape
 - d. Special events
 - e. Enhanced services (landscaping, street/sidewalk cleaning, snow removal, etc. (supplementing, not supplanting normal municipal services))
5. Encourage a review and update of City's Comprehensive Plan with special emphasis on land use and zoning in downtown. It has been some time since the Plan was adopted and it hasn't been updated. Undoubtedly, with land values increasing there will be demand for lucrative development. We can't thwart development, but we want to manage it best as possible.
6. Endorse the pedestrian/bike bridge over Little Miami River.