

Eric Lom

From: Brigid Vance <brigidvance@gmail.com> 503
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 10:48 AM
To: Eric Lom; Vered Meltzer; Israel Del Toro
Subject: Re: Proposed on-street parking restrictions for Pacific St. in between Lawe and Drew streets

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Dear all,

Thank you for soliciting input from Pacific St. residents regarding the proposed modification of on-street parking restrictions adjacent to my property. I appreciate the opportunity to provide my feedback. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the June 6 meeting of the City's Municipal Services Committee, so I am opting to e-mail you instead.

I am **not at all** in favor of the proposed modification.

First of all, I have not noticed any problems on these three blocks of Pacific Street in between Lawe and Drew.

I have not noticed particularly fast traffic on Pacific Street in between Lawe and Drew streets, so I do not understand why it is necessary to attempt to further slow the traffic on these three blocks. On the contrary, neighborhood children often play in the street here -- games of four-square, riding around on their scooters or skateboards, rollerblading, or even tossing around a football. It's quite jolly to watch.

If these three blocks are not a problem in terms of speeding cars, why change rules that seem to be working?

In my experience living in more urban areas (New York City and San Francisco), removing on-street parking restrictions creates problems of congestion, crowding, and impaired visibility for pedestrians and drivers alike.

Congestion/ Crowding:

Currently, when I have friends or relatives stop by from other neighborhoods or out of town, I'm grateful that they can easily find short-term parking across the street. I worry that if the two-hour parking rule is overturned, people will drop off their vehicles or trailers and take up the space more permanently.

Pacific Street is not wide. 28 feet, yes, per your diagram, but for careful or uncertain drivers, it will be too stressful to weave in between two rows of parked cars. I can easily imagine dinged side mirrors having witnessed such minor accidents in congested or crowded streets.

Two hours' parking on one side of the street encourages swift turnover to help with overflow parking at Jacob's.

Impaired visibility:

Adding the possibility of more permanent parked vehicles on both sides of the street will impair visibility. I speak from experience on this street. We had one issue on Pacific Street with an abandoned vehicle on the north side of the street. When it was parked there illegally, before it was removed, my mother had difficulty backing up out of the driveway onto Pacific Street because of her impaired visibility rendered by cars parked on both sides of her driveway as well as across the street.

Eric Lom

From: Philip/Anne BARUTH <philipannebaruth@msn.com> 507
Sent: Saturday, May 28, 2022 3:19 PM
To: Vered Meltzer; Eric Lom
Subject: Parking 500 block E. Pacific Street:

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Dear Eric and Vered,

Thank you very much for the inquiry concerning unrestricted parking on East Pacific Street. We live on the 500 block of East Pacific. **We hope the restrictions stay!!!**

As it is, driving through double-sided parked cars, trucks, and vans is sometimes a tight matter even with the two-hour minimum on the north and overnight restrictions for both sides. This is made worse in winter when piled snow (and in fall with piled leaves) make parking near the curb a near impossibility.

Backing out of driveways can be a trick as well - especially in winter. One year a renter across the street hit our parked car. He said he would pay for the damage but moved without reimbursing us and without warning or forwarding address. As he said he was a veteran, we let it go ...

During festivals, restricting one side allows for the safe and unencumbered travel for emergency vehicles.

With the fire station close by, it makes sense that the road is wide and unencumbered during bad weather, leaf pile up times, etc.. Frankly, one sided parking might make sense at times!

Currently, we are experiencing a lot of overnight parking in front of our house and neighboring houses by a multi-car household. We have been very tempted to report this. It is rather unsightly and adds to visibility and safety concerns - and can cause garbage pick-up problems. Some of these people park for very long periods of time - overnight and beyond - leaving little chance for homeowners and their guests to have a turn to park there as well.

It would seem with City Park being such a summer haven even overnight for drug, drifting, destitute and desperate people, having greater visibility of properties at night for police and neighborhood watch people would be helpful. Numerous times police have been seen apparently searching through the yards for who knows who - who did who knows what!

Anyway, my husband and I vote a strong 'no' for these reasons and likely more.

Again, thank you so much for asking. Very thoughtful of you.

Eric Lom

From: Eric Lewellyn <lewellye@gmail.com> 608
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 10:00 PM
To: Eric Lom; VeredMeltzer@appleton.org; Vered Meltzer
Subject: Parking on Pacific Street

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Dear Eric Lom and Alderperson Meltzer:

I am very happy to hear you are working on solutions to the problem of speeding cars in the City Park Neighborhood. I agree that speeding cars is problematic. However, as someone who lives near the corner of Pacific and Lawe street, I can attest that speeding cars along Lawe street is a much larger problem than speeding cars on Pacific Street. Regarding the issue of traffic on Pacific street in particular, I worry that the unintended consequences of allowing all-day parking on the north side of the street may be worse than the initial problem of car speed and traffic.

In particular, I have two main concerns. First, I am worried about losing the current benefits of 2 hour parking. The City of Appleton identified benefits for public works (snow and garbage), police activity, and aesthetic benefits for limiting overnight parking (<https://www.appleton.org/visitors/parking/overnight-parking-regulations>). Those benefits are all applicable to 2 hour parking also.

Second, I am very worried about bicycle safety. With the current two hour restriction, there are rarely cars parked on the north side of the street so biking along the side of the street is relatively low hazard. Every additional parked car is a hazard to bicycles and Pacific St. is frequently traveled by bicyclists.

If there is a trial period for North Side Parking, these benefits that we now enjoy from 2 hour parking are likely to be lost. Furthermore, I do not believe that a traffic study will reveal those losses because those parameters would be outside the study purview. In my opinion, reducing traffic speed on Pacific does not seem to outweigh the current benefits of having 2 hour parking.

As an alternative for controlling speeding traffic, I hope you will consider making designated bike lanes along Pacific Street from Drew to Peabody Park with appropriate separation for safety as outlined by the following FHWA publication: https://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/2-4_FHWA-Separated-Bike-Lane-Guide-ch-5_2014.pdf. It seems that this should achieve the goal of effectively reducing the width of the road and thereby constraining traffic speed. Furthermore, this seems a natural bicycle route that would connect Peabody Park to the existing bicycle lane network on Drew Street. Finally, additional bicycle lanes will help to achieve the city-wide goal of making Appleton a safer and easier place to bike. Allowing more parking on Pacific St. may forestall any future attempts to convert this to a bicycle route.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Eric Lewellyn
608 E Pacific St.
Appleton, WI 54911

Eric Lom

From: Natalie Lewellyn <vancen@gmail.com> 609
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 8:41 PM
To: Eric Lom; Vered Meltzer
Subject: parking on Pacific

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Hi!

I live on Pacific St at Lawe (near Jacob's). I'm against having there be no time limit for parking because I don't like people to park in front of the house all the time. I think the 2 hour limit is nice because it keeps the streets clearer so that visibility is better for the kids crossing Pacific to go to City Park.

Let's put a stop sign on Lawe so the kids can cross more easily. Nobody pays attention to the cross walk in front of Jacob's, so enforcing state law by issuing citations for ignoring pedestrians trying to cross would also be a plus.

Sincerely,

Natalie Lewellyn

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Eric Lom

From: Ruth Vance <ruthmvance@gmail.com> 608
Sent: Tuesday, May 31, 2022 9:57 AM
To: Eric Lom; Vered Meltzer
Subject: changes on PacificStreet

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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To whom it may concern,

I am **not** in favor of removing the two hour parking limit on Pacific Street between Lawe and Drew.

1. Having cars parked for longer hours adds to congestion and safety.
2. It is difficult and unsafe to back out of the driveways when there are cars parked along the street.
It is unsafe to ride bikes for the children to get to school when the road is narrowed by too many parked cars.
3. Also, I have not noticed that the traffic on the street is above the speed limit. Children actually play ball in the street because of low traffic.
4. What a strange priority to concentrate and call meetings about a non-issue when Lawe Street is such a problem.
-It has not even one stop sign to stop the speeding cars barreling down the street.
-At times there are strings of up to thirty cars in one direction with people unable to get across.
-Children on this side cannot cross to go to Jacob's Meat Market without an adult, and children on the other side cannot cross to go to City Park.

Please consider focusing on the Lawe Street problem.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ruth Vance

608 E. Pacific Street

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