

Amendments to the Sunset Beach Island Parking Plan Concept

September 6, 2024

During the Town Council Meeting of September 6, 2024, the Island Parking Plan was reviewed and Council was given the opportunity to ask questions, make motions, and vote on changes to the plan.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Council agreed to approve the amended Parking Plan Concept.

The following changes to the Island Parking Plan were discussed and approved by Council:

1. 15th Street:
 - The Island Parking Committee proposed that 15th Street become a one-way street with parking on one side of the street. Council voted to leave 15th street a two-way street with no parking on either side.
2. No Parking on Main Street – 1st-27th Streets:
 - After some discussion, Council agreed to leave the recommendation for no parking on Main Street between 1st-27th Streets in place as proposed by the Island Parking Committee. This recommendation will be evaluated after the first season of implementing of the Parking Plan.
 - Council directed that the drawings of parking on main Street between 1st-27th Streets should designate parking on the North Side of the street in case the evaluation indicates the need to change the current parking plan.
3. Gazebo Lot:
 - The Island Parking Committee did not propose any changes to the Gazebo parking Lot. Council did begin a discussion regarding the need for changes in the Gazebo Lot. At one point, a thought was expressed regarding making the Gazebo Lot only for handicapped citizens and visitors.
 - Council made no decisions, but requested that McGill Associates be retained to study the Gazebo Lot which becomes congested due to traffic issues as people load and unload cars. Additionally, cars often back up traffic as they wait for people to leave a parking spot. The traffic congestion makes it difficult for emergency vehicles to gain access to the beach strand.
 - Goal: How to better manage traffic flow while at the same time making it possible for emergency vehicles to better access the strand.
4. Parking on Main Street and Canal Drive:

- Council agreed with the recommendation of the Parking Committee to limit vehicle parking to the North side of Main Street and Handicapped Parking to the South side of Main Street. Also, to limit parking to the South side of Canal Drive.
- Council further agreed to clear obstructed right of ways on both sides of Main Street and Canal Drive and work with property owners to designate driveways and then designate parking places. The drawings for the South side of Main Street will designate places for possible future parking expansion.

5. Mailboxes on Main Street:

- The Island Parking Committee proposed that mailboxes should be only on the South side of Main Street. Council voted that mailboxes may be located on both sides of Main Street adjacent to driveways.