



**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH
PARKING COMMITTEE
HOLDEN BEACH TOWN HALL – PUBLIC ASSEMBLY
FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2021 - 10:00 A.M.**

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Review of Initiative Approved by the Board of Commissioners and Agreement on Initiative Deliverables (Pages 1 – 4)
 - Paid Parking Evaluation - where, how, etc.
 - Partnership with HB Pier on Paid Parking
 - Boat Trailer Parking Concerns if Block Q is Sold
 - Jordan Boulevard Redesign to Provide More Parking Spaces
 - Review of Avenue A Potential Traffic Pattern Change and East End Parking
 - Maximum Existing Property
4. Review of Previous Work Completed in 2019 by the Parking Citizens Advisory Committee (if necessary) (Pages 5 – 62)
5. Determine Specific Work Efforts and Timelines
6. Determine Next Meeting Date
7. Adjournment

*** Due to the Town of Holden Beach's State of Emergency Restrictions and Governor Cooper's Safer at Home Order, in person public attendance is prohibited. The meeting will be livestreamed on the Town's Facebook page. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/holdenbeachtownhall/> to watch the livestream. Public comments can be submitted to heather@hbtownhall.com or deposited in the Town's drop box at Town Hall prior to 9:00 a.m. on January 8, 2021.**

From: Commissioners Murdock and Tyner
To: Holden Beach Board of Commissioners
Subject: Request to Form a Parking Work Group

Commissioners Murdock and Tyner are requesting approval by the Holden Beach Board of Commissioners to form a working group composed of two Commissioners (Murdock and Tyner) and the appropriate Town staff members to evaluate the below parking-related items:

- ✓ **Paid parking opportunities:** investigate paid parking including the use of new technology used by other communities.
- ✓ **Jordan Boulevard:** investigate organizing Jordan Boulevard to improve aesthetics and allow more parking
- ✓ **Boat trailer parking:** investigate opportunities to provide parking for boat trailers utilizing the NC Wildlife boat ramp in anticipation Block Q may be sold and developed for housing.
- ✓ **Avenue A:** investigate alternatives to make Avenue A an one-way street with angled parking spaces

At the November 2018 meeting of the Town of Holden Beach Board of Commissioners, the Planning & Zoning Board was tasked with forming a Community Advisory Committee (CAC) to study and make recommendations on the following parking items:

- **Jordan Boulevard:** investigate organizing Jordan Boulevard to improve aesthetics and allow more parking
- **Visitor Parking:** If additional parking is needed, investigate property the Town does not own which could be utilized
- **Town Owned Properties:** If additional parking is needed, develop a list of properties owned by the Town that could be used and the cost to develop
- **Paid Parking:** investigate paid parking including the use of new technology used by other communities.

The recommendations from the CAC and approved by P&Z included:

1. **Jordan Boulevard:** Investigate completing a similar project to the one proposed by NC State many years ago.
2. **Visitor Parking:** It was felt that at the time that there was adequate parking except on a few days each year, and even on busy days parking spots were still available. Several suggestions were made to improve parking that included increased police enforcement of parking rules, better signage and maps, and implementation of bumpers. It was further suggested that parking continued to be monitored and the issue revisited in the fall (2019). It was also recommended there was no reason to look for Town owned or other sites for increased parking because it was determined that more parking was not needed at the time.
3. **Paid Parking:** The CAC felt that paid parking should be investigated further and recommended that the Town issue an RFP for vendors. Reasons for this recommendation included:
 - a) Surrounding towns already have or are moving to paid parking
 - b) Paid parking has been identified as a source of funding for the Town and could be used to help cover expenses incurred as a result of visitors such as portable toilets and extra trash pickups.

- c) Extra funds could be used to enhance the visitor experience with improved amenities
- d) An informal poll of East End residents showed they were in favor of paid parking.

The CAC & P&Z felt it would be impossible to get a true sense of the potential revenue or potential issues without proposals from vendors and felt that a RFP should come from the Town at the direction of the BOC.

Since the P&Z/CAC report in early 2019, several events have occurred which have prompted the need to re-visit these parking issues:

- Two large RV parks are being developed off-island that may significantly increase the demand for more visitor parking.
- More daily visitors are coming to Holden Beach due to travel limitations imposed by the current COVID-19 virus.
- The owner of Block Q has communicated his desire to sell these properties for future housing development thereby negatively impacting boat trailer parking using these properties. Boat trailer parking may negatively impact visitor parking near the bridge if the current parking options are eliminated.
- The owner of the Holden Beach Pier has communicated his desire to be included in a public-private venture for paid parking if the Town decides to evaluate and implement paid parking.
- There is a recognition that seasonal police officers are potentially needed to handle visitor traffic. Paid parking could help offset these costs and other daily visitor-related costs.
- Other surrounding beach communities continue to implement paid-parking as an option to offset costs associated with daily visitors. Please see attached article about Kure Beach.

Commissioners Murdock and Tyner believe it is in the best interest of Holden Beach for the Board of Commissioners to urgently move forward with investigating these parking challenges and opportunities before the Town is faced with significant negative impacts.