Walkable Places Parking Subcommittee

Planning and Development Department City of Houston

Walkable Places Committee February 21st, 2018

- Recap of Parking Element Menu
- Discussion of Transferrable Parking Right
- Discussion of On-street Parking Credit
- Discussion of Parking Exempt Area Expansion
- Public Comment

Recap Parking Element Menu

- Reduced minimum parking requirements
- Fees in lieu of parking
- Allow credits for on-street parking
- Transferable parking right
- Parking maximum
- Parking exemption

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- Intent: to provide development flexibility within a district with parking maximum requirements
- Targeted areas: areas with maximum parking requirements
- How it works:
 - Based on its use and size, each site is entitled the right to construct a max number of parking spaces
 - Parking rights may be transferred between developers to meet their needs

Scenario 1:

 Developers may build fewer parking spaces and transfer the right to future developments

Site A

Max 50 spaces Want 25 spaces only



Site B

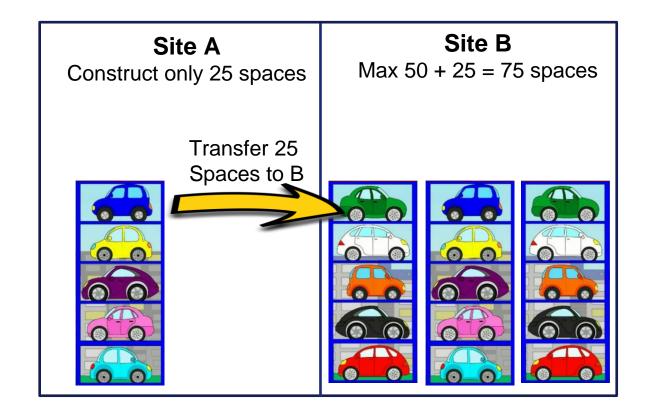
Max 50 spaces, But want 75 spaces





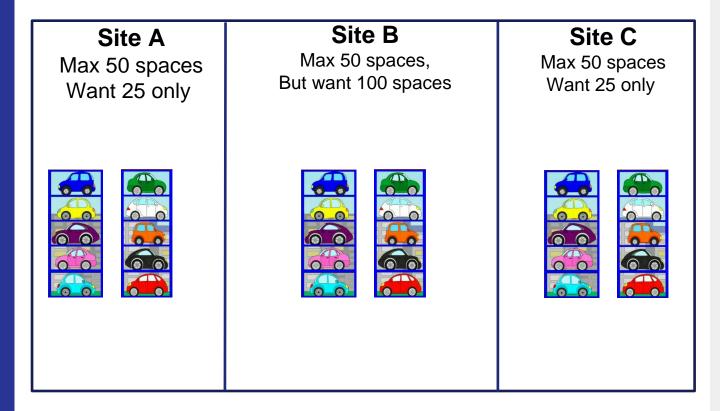
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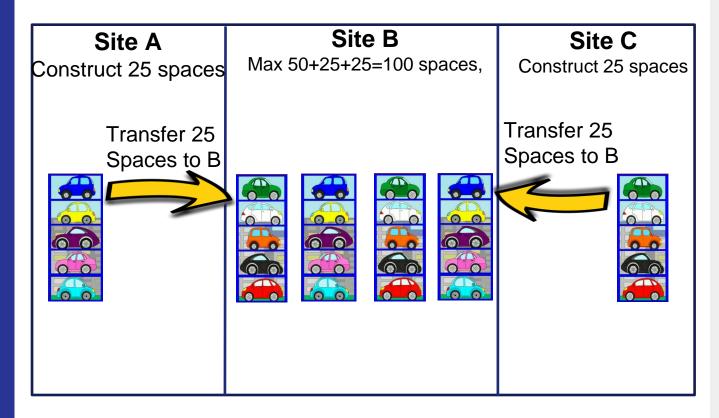
Scenario 2:

 Developers who need more parking spaces can proceed by purchasing the right from other developers



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 Developers who need more parking spaces can proceed by purchasing the right from other developers



Scenario 3:

Grandfather buildings have the entitlement to sell their parking right to new developments and then lease parking from the new developments

Site A (Grandfather)

Entitled 50 spaces 25 existing spaces



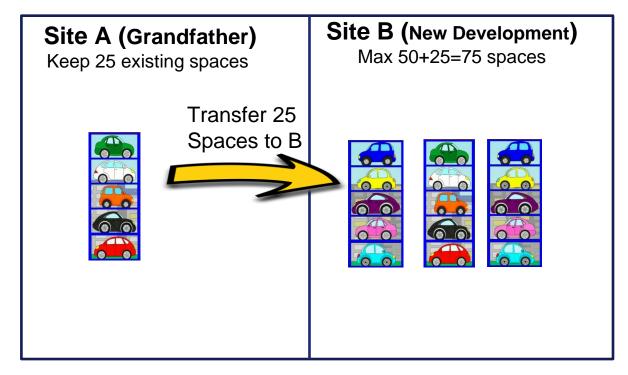
Site B (New Development)

Max 50 spaces Want 75 spaces



Scenario 3:

 Grandfather buildings have the entitlement to sell their parking right to new developments and then lease parking from the new developments



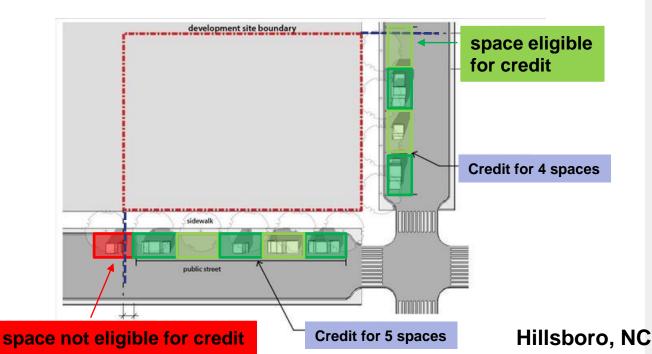
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- Intent: to allow less off-street parking spaces in certain areas
- Targeted areas: high density mixed-use urban areas/ corridors
- Common requirements for on-street parking spaces:
 - Accessible 24 hours a day
 - Available to the general public
 - Within close proximity to the site
 - Standard size
 - Prohibited locations:
 - Clear zones adjacent to curb cuts
 - Clear zones adjacent to bus stops/ transit stations
 - Areas prohibiting parking

Different Approaches

Approach 1:

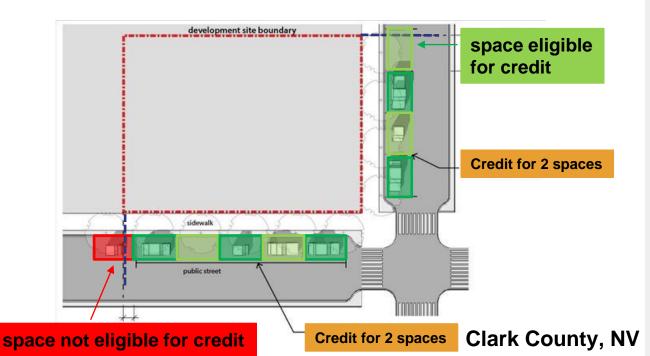
- Location requirements:
 - 1. On the same side of the street as the proposed use
 - 2. Directly abutting the development site
- All qualified spaces may be counted towards off-street parking requirement



Different Approaches

Approach 2:

- Location requirements:
 - 1. On the same side of the street as the proposed use
 - 2. Directly abutting the development site
- X% of qualified spaces may be counted towards off-street parking requirement



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Different Approaches

- Approach 3:
 - Location requirements:
 Within convenient walking distance (for example 600') from the doorway of the site

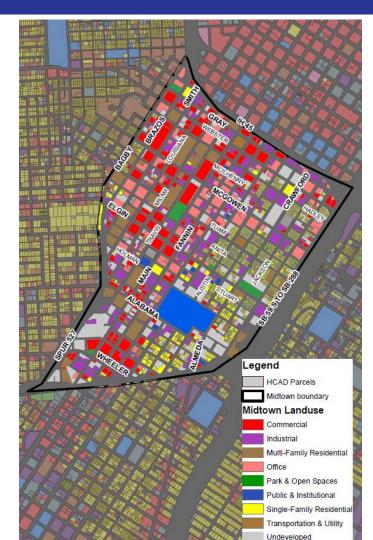
- Challenge: need an effective mechanism tracking the usage of adjacent on-street parking spaces
- Applicants can decide their own approaches as long as justification is provided

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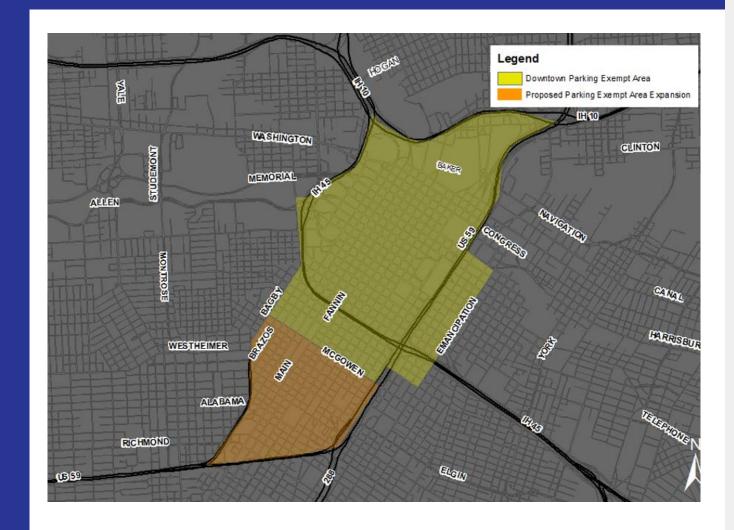
Existing Parking Exempt Area



Urban Development Trend in Midtown



Proposed
Parking
Exempt
Area
Expansion



Challenge in Parking Exempt Area

 Pure market-based approach doesn't always create pedestrian friendly development





Proposed Parking Exempt Area Expansion

- Options for potential next step:
 - Make no changes
 - Expand the existing parking exempt area
 - Expand the existing parking exempt area with maximum parking requirements

Discussion



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