

Q&A

Kickoff MED/RPP Happenings 4/13/2023

Rachel, Upper Lawrenceville Resident

- How has hybrid parking looked in other cities?
 - DOMI has some research, but that was not readily available at this meeting

Jake D, Resident

- What does the money collected by MED translate to? Is the \$1.2 million for the Southside gross or net income?
 - Allison Harnden expressed this is gross income, but due to the pandemic, no taxes have been taken out the past two years
 - Clean Team for the Southside costs about \$13,000/month
 - Funds only become available after one year of beginning to collect metered funds for MED (something to keep in mind)
 - Dave Breingan added that bus shelters cost \$10,000

Brian M, Resident and Business Owner

- Could Lawrenceville employees apply for permits as non-residents? Is there the possibility of a “monthly pass” similar to a bus pass?
 - Nothing in the code currently says employees can apply DOMI stated
 - Said this something that Councilwoman Gross could address
 - Unsure yet if this could be a possibility, but something to consider if this process moves forward

Erika, Resident

- Has the use of Uber/Lyft/rideshare led to a decrease in demand for parking? (for context the last parking study done of Lawrenceville was completed in 2015)
 - Dave Breingan said we currently do not know because that was not apart of the 2015 parking study → see [LC's community plan page for more details](#)

Julia, Upper Lawrenceville Resident

- Will we lengthen meter times (to evenings), if we don't end up seeing benefits? How can we support low income neighbors in accessing parking permits?
 - Dave mentioned this has come up and is of concern to LU and LC, LU in particular has the Neighbors in Need fund that neighbors can request support of up to \$500 through and support has minimal conditions attached

- This is also something we need to continue to look at if policy gets put in place and code changes may be needed

Steven R, Resident

- Commented that they love living in Pittsburgh, but often talks with friends about places they would not like to live so being compared to the Southside is scary
- Mentioned that this presentation left them with more questions than answers and they plan to be at the next meetings/open houses

Matt E, Resident

- What is the line between PennDOT and the City? (Question for DOMI) [Given that Butler St is a state road managed by PennDOT how is DOMI working with them to make sure visioning for the neighborhood comes to fruition?]
 - DOMI said they are working with PennDOT on sidewalk improvement collaborations
 - PennDOT does have some reluctance to creating bump outs (no full clarification as to why)
 - Costs for things like bumpouts can be high, so may require capital budget requests

Kris C, Upper Lawrenceville Resident via Facebook

- “I'm curious if/how this plan will eventually correspond with a plan in the future to provide more/safer multi-modal transportation options to the area, e.g. better sidewalks, a more connective and safer bike network, additional transit coverage to this area from other parts of the city, a dedicated rideshare pick-up/drop off zone, etc.”
 - Dave mentioned this is exactly what LC and LU have in mind regarding MED, the hope is to make the neighborhood more multimodal

Daryl P, Resident via Facebook

- Expressing concern over the funds that the Southside's Parking Enhancement District is not that high (\$200,000)
 - Allison Harnden pointed out that the \$200,000 was only the first year 2017 and that was able to be used in 2018 and the fund has continued to increase each year

Ian, Central Lawrenceville Resident

- Current Zone A RPP works for him and his family
- Has more questions than answers from the meeting and will attend open houses
- Is there a way you could have a season pass for parking, particularly for visitors?

- How would a visitor pass be managed?
- Not opposed to people parking all day and catching public transport downtown as happens sometimes currently, because it encourages use of public transport
- Could there be a scholarship fund for low income residents to afford permits each year?

Sarah, Upper Lawrenceville Business Owner

- How will meters impact foot traffic on our blocks? Any plans/ideas of keeping flow of business steady as it is now?
- How many empty spots will there be in comparison to parking rates?

Debbie, affiliation with Lower Lawrenceville parish

- Can we have private companies come in and create stacked parking options? Ideas around soft scaping and art that could improve appearance of stacked parking
 - Dave mentioned that it might be worth first continuing to explore how to share existing private parking more (i.e. Busy Beaver parking lot)

Randall, Central Lawrenceville Resident

- Who's the ultimate decision maker for the MED funds?
 - Lives at the Department of City Directors, but fund uses are typically determined by the community
 - Sometimes fund uses will go through City Council for a vote, but is not always an annual event
- If a meter is put into a new area, do all the hours that meter collects for go towards this MED fund?
 - Not sure yet
- How many nighttime enforcement people are in the Southside?
 - Currently 4 people according to DOMI

Jen, Lower Lawrenceville resident

- When Arsenal 201 was built it led to more people parking on the streets? Do they get RPP?
 - Dave mentioned part of many new developments, including Arsenal 201, include that their residents cannot apply for RPP
- Arsenal 201 sale of their overflow parking? What does that mean for residents?

Brian M, Resident and Business Owner (second question)

- Pittsburgh Parking Authority has said you can't get tickets for parking on the sidewalk how can we change that?

- DOMI said speak with your Councilperson

Jordan Botta, raised in Lawrenceville, current Bloomfield resident and running for City Council

- Is there any way to exempt lifelong Lawrenceville residents from paying for permit parking?
- Why do permit fees not expire a year after you purchase it? (currently you pay Oct 31-Oct 31, and fee stays the same no matter when you buy)
 - Parking Authority said the renewal month varies zone by zone, but will likely not change to be based on when you purchase the permit

Jake, Resident (second question)

- Do we know where most people are coming from to visit Lawrenceville research wise? Are the bus routes reflective of where most visitors come from?
 - No really substantial research currently exists around this