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City to discuss Downtown parking recommendations at two forums

HARRISONBURG, Va. – The City of Harrisonburg will present potential changes to parking in the Downtown area at two upcoming meetings, and resident feedback is needed.

The forums, to be held Wednesday, Jan. 22, at City Hall's Council Chambers, will focus on recommendations to address the future of Downtown parking. The City of Harrisonburg and Harrisonburg Downtown Renaissance are eager to discuss the recommendations with the public and obtain their input on which recommendations residents and visitors to Downtown prefer. Meetings will take place from 9 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., and the same presentation will be made at each forum.

Some recommendations the City has received through the process have focused on instituting parking requirements for new development in Downtown, investing in improved wayfinding and technology systems to help drivers locate available parking, promoting shared parking agreements and investigating fee-for-use possibilities, among other options.

The recommendations were created following a number of public engagement opportunities held on the topic, including a community survey and a forum at the Ice House.

“We have appreciated all the feedback we have received so far from the community regarding what they would like to see with parking in Downtown,” Public Works Director Tom Hartman said. “Now that we have recommendations to consider, it is vital that those with an interest in Downtown parking take advantage of this opportunity to weigh in with their input.”

In addition to the Jan. 22 forums, residents also will be able to take part in an online survey focused on the new recommendations. That survey will be located at the City's website, www.harrisonburgva.gov, in the coming weeks.

Following the forums and survey, City staff will present final recommendations, likely in late February or early March.

The City of Harrisonburg is centrally located in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. It is home to approximately 54,000 people. More information about the City of Harrisonburg is available online at www.HarrisonburgVA.gov.



Parking in Downtown (above) will be the focus of two discussions on Wednesday, Jan. 22, at City Hall's Council Chamber.