

# MAIN STREET DISTRICT BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA

Tuesday, June 23, 2015 at 7:30 PM Canada T - 255 Main Street South

#### **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

#### **Items**

- 1. Review of Downtown Newmarket Parking Wayfinding Initial Assessment Report p. 1 and selection of preferred option.
- 2. Discussion regarding renaming the parking lot at Old Town Hall.

#### **Adjournment**









Downtown Newmarket Parking Wayfinding Initial Assessment

February, 2015

### **Existing Parking Context**



#### Supply & Deployment

- +/- 615 spaces dispersed across Downtown
  - 510 spaces in 12 off-street parking lots
  - 105 on-street spaces on Main Street and adjacent streets
- Off-street lots size range: 5 to 240 spaces
  - number of very small lots
  - more spaces towards north end of downtown
- Lots are typically numbered: P1 to P6A
  - no geographical reference
  - largest lot (P3) "hidden" from Main Street



**Existing Parking Facilities** 

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# **Existing Parking Wayfinding**



#### Existing Downtown Vehicular Wayfinding Signage

- Basic parking signage ("Green P" signs) at key intersections
  - not lot specific
  - no lot references
- Small parking lot signs at each lot
  - poor parking lot markers
- No parking communications literature / mapping available online or published

















# Parking Demand Pressures Off-Street Parking Lots



#### Factors and Issues

- Overall parking supply in downtown is sufficient to meet demands
  - peak weekday occupancy +/- 60%
  - peak weekend event occupancy +/- 90%
- Parking demand imbalances across lots:
  - number of lots full at times notwithstanding significant capacity available in P3 lot
- Parking distribution north vs south:
  - more spaces located in north downtown
  - all parking within short walk of all downtown
- Event parking demands:
  - New Town Hall, Farmers Market & Festivals
  - occasional visitors not familiar with parking
  - desirable to focus event parking in P3 lot

Challenge is to better direct motorists to the available parking facilities — P3 in particular — to avoid concentrations of parking demand in smaller lots particularly for larger events

#### Off-Street Parking Lot "Heat" Map - Weekday

	P1	P2	Р3	P4	P5	P6	P6A	P7	Market Square	Doug Duncan North	Doug Duncan East	Doug Duncan South	Total
Supply	9	16	247	0	46	23	5	6	0	7	59	71	489
7:00	0%	0%	11%		0%	0%	0%	33%	Lot Closed	14%	3%	4%	7%
7:30	11%	0%	11%		4%	0%	0%	33%		14%	3%	8%	8%
8:00	22%	0%	13%		15%	0%	0%	17%		29%	3%	13%	11%
8:30	44%	19%	19%		26%	4%	0%	17%		43%	12%	28%	20%
9:00	67%	25%	27%	K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K K	61%	0%	0%	33%		43%	27%	75%	37%
9:30	56%	50%	28%		39%	35%	20%	33%		43%	27%	76%	38%
10:00	78%	63%	30%		57%	48%	20%	50%		43%	41%	82%	44%
10:30	78%	63%	32%		65%	70%	80%	83%		43%	54%	93%	52%
11:00	100%	63%	35%		74%	83%	80%	67%		43%	54%	90%	54%
11:30	44%	88%	34%		70%	78%	60%	83%		43%	69%	93%	55%
12:00	78%	88%	33%		80%	78%	100%	67%		43%	73%	87%	56%
12:30	100%	69%	33%		100%	87%	80%	83%		43%	75%	86%	58%
13:00	100%	94%	34%		100%	91%	60%	100%		57%	83%	94%	62%
13:30	89%	100%	35%		93%	96%	80%	133%		71%	90%	86%	63%
14:00	78%	75%	35%		100%	83%	100%	117%		71%	86%	92%	62%
14:30	78%	75%	30%		100%	96%	80%	117%		86%	90%	87%	60%
15:00	89%	88%	30%		100%	91%	100%	83%		57%	83%	80%	58%
15:30	78%	100%	30%		96%	87%	80%	67%		57%	88%	73%	56%
16:00	56%	88%	34%		78%	96%	60%	67%		43%	78%	68%	54%
16:30	33%	75%	29%		80%	43%	40%	67%		57%	54%	65%	45%
17:00	56%	81%	28%		70%	22%	40%	67%		14%	47%	59%	41%
17:30	22%	50%	25%		72%	13%	0%	67%		14%	22%	21%	29%
18:00	33%	38%	26%		83%	26%	0%	50%		14%	12%	24%	29%
18:30	56%	38%	26%		76%	43%	0%	67%		14%	14%	23%	31%
19:00	56%	31%	29%		89%	78%	0%	67%		14%	15%	15%	34%

- 1. Survey data recorded: Friday August 16th, 2013
- Market Square and P4 lots were closed due to Town Hall construction.



# Wayfinding Issues & Opportunities



### Wayfinding aspects that could be improved:

- Little name recognition for individual lots (i.e. P1, P2, P3.....)
  - Parking lot names should be related to an attraction / geographic location to help facilitate lot recognition and wayfinding
- Too many small lots with different names
  - Often adjacent to one another
  - Difficult for wayfinding purposes
- Current wayfinding signage provides only basic information
  - Enhanced navigation to larger lots possible
  - Lot identification could be improved
- Little pedestrian wayfinding within the downtown
- Limited parking communication / mapping
  - No public parking map of the downtown on Town of Newmarket website
  - No advance information available
- Event parking demands should be managed
  - Avoid concentrations / surges of demand at small lots
  - Direct motorists to larger lots

...Lot names should be changed

...Lots should be consolidated to reduce number of lots and simplify designations

...Enhanced lot identification and directional signage should be explored

...A downtown pedestrian wayfinding / signage strategy should be developed

...Parking mapping and communications information should be developed

...Signage and advanced parking information should be provided to better guide motorists to larger lots

### Wayfinding Review



### Scope of Review:

- 1. Parking Lot Renaming / Rebranding
  - Review of lot consolidation
  - Possible naming options
- 2. Parking Information / Communications
  - other City examples
- 3. Vehicular Wayfinding Signage
  - Approach to signage
  - Sign options
  - Initial wayfinding deployment plans
- 4. Examples of Pedestrian Wayfinding Signage
  - other examples

# 1.Lot Renaming / Consolidation



#### Issues

- 12 existing public lots
  - too many for wayfinding purposes
  - lots adjacent to each other
- Lot names based upon prior conventions / unrelated to location
- Lot signage at some of the lots



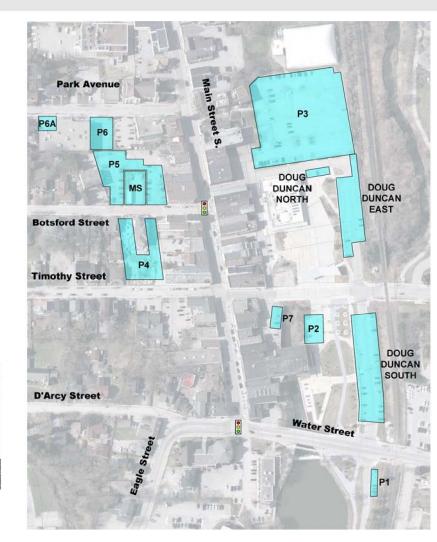










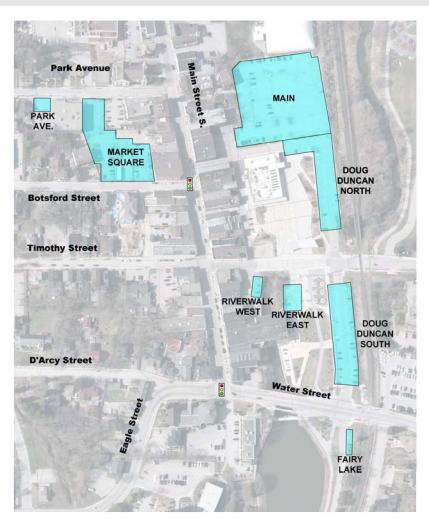


### 1. Lot Renaming / Consolidation



### Strategy

- Rename/rebrand lot names
  - lot names reflect location / landmarks
  - alternate names possible
- Create fewer, larger lots
  - possible to reduce to 5 groupings
  - fewer lots assists wayfinding
  - simplified



#### Note:

1. Lot names have been assigned for discussion purposes only.

### 2. Parking Information / Mapping



#### Issues:

- Town of Newmarket lacks a current communication strategy to inform residents and visitors of the availability / location of parking within the downtown
- No current mapping is available to identify downtown parking lots
- No current information is provided on-line or through Town communication channels

### The Town should develop:

- Up to date downtown parking mapping & information
- On-line / mobile apps providing parking information to users & visitors
- Develop communication linkages with area businesses, institutions, event organizers and media assisting visitors and patrons to find parking

#### **Downtown Newmarket Parking Plan - 2006**



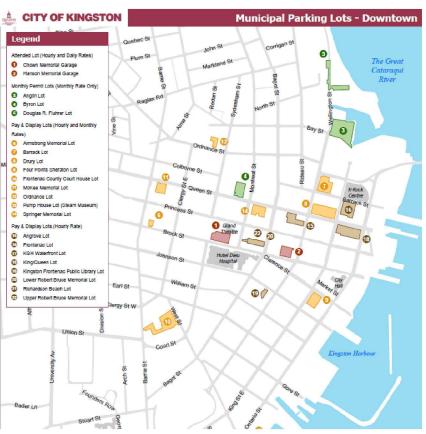
# 2. Parking Information / Mapping



### Other Municipality Examples – Basic Mapping



#### **City of Kingston**



# 2. Parking Information / Mapping



### Other Municipality Examples – Interactive On-Line Information

#### **Town of Banff**



Banff offers an interactive on-line / mobile app providing parking lot information, parking usage, payment information, restrictions and directions – www.banffparking.ca or http://www.banff.ca/index.aspx?NID=93

# 3. Wayfinding Signage



### Approaches to Parking Signage

#### Basic



- Simple design
- Typical and general
- Smaller signs

#### More Detailed



- More information
- Better orientation
- Lot names / supply
- Larger signs

#### Real-Time



- Detailed information
- Real-time data
- Key approach locations
- Costly infrastructure
- Downtown could benefit from more directional signage information
- Real-time signage systems need to be assessed from a cost-benefit / business case perspective

## 3. Wayfinding Signage

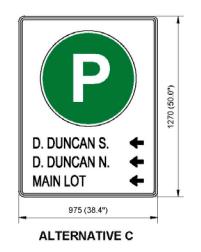


### **Enhanced Wayfinding Signage Options**

- Provides lot information
  - provides direction information by lot
  - locate on key approaches

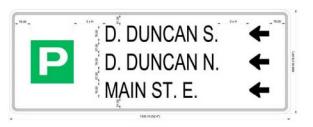








**OTHER ALTERNATIVE:** 



OR CUSTOM:



### 3. Wayfinding Signage



### Enhanced "Gateway" Signage Option

- Provides more comprehensive information on key approaches to downtown
  - Eagle Street (west of Main)
  - Water Street (west of Prospect)
  - Timothy Street (west of Prospect)
  - Main Street (north of Park)
- Provides key lot information on entry
  - with basic road geometry



### 3. Lot Markers



#### **Enhanced Lot Identification Markers**

- Provides highly visible and clear signage
- Branding / design opportunity
- Possible integration with pedestrian wayfinding











### 3. Real-Time Parking Systems



- Variety of systems
  - all require some form of sensor
  - either visual sensors or surface mounted
  - in use in many municipalities
- Provide real-time parking availability information
- Information linked to:
  - Municipal data centre for monitoring, revenue control, enforcement & analysis
  - mobile applications: mapping
  - variable signage providing lot availability information
- Interface systems can be highly interactive
  - parking availability by lot: guides motorists to available lots
  - wayfinding / direction information
  - mobile parking payment
- Cost and feasibility need to be tested
  - capital cost: varies (US\$200+ per space)
  - ongoing monitoring costs: varies (US\$20+ per space / month)
  - weather considerations & reliability in outdoor contexts





Parksight Analytics, ParkerMap, Parker Suite Streetline

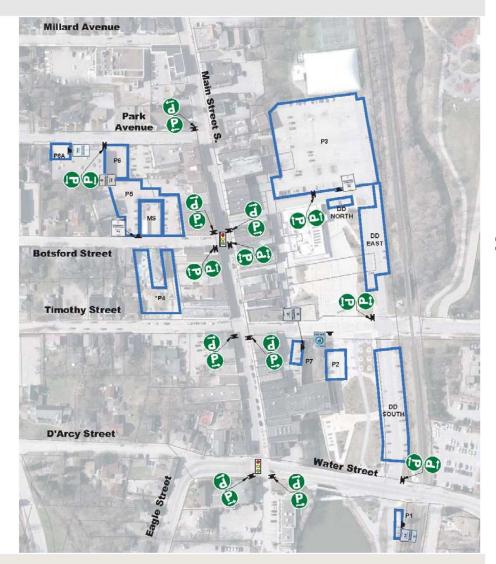
# 4. Signage Deployment



### **Existing Wayfinding Signage**

 Number of "Green P" parking signs located at key intersections



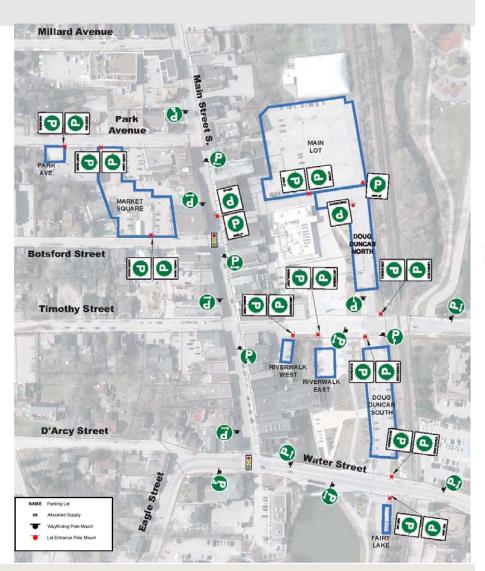


### 4. Signage Deployment



# Option A Enhanced Lot Identification

- Generally maintain existing "Green P" directional signage at key intersections
  - add supplementary directional arrows
  - consider location of signs in advance of decision points
- Add lot identification signage
  - at each lot entrance
  - visible locations

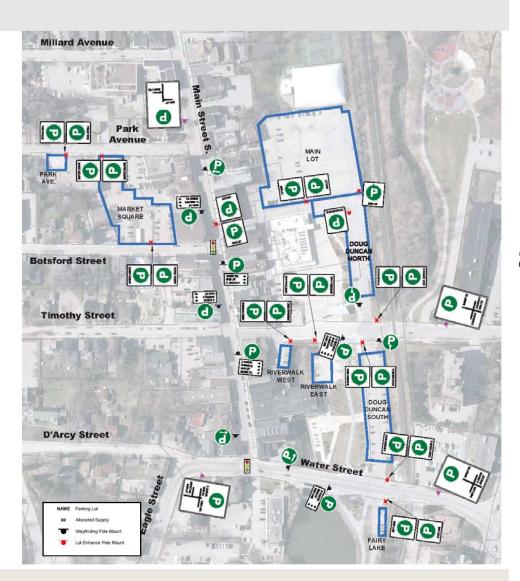


### 4. Signage Deployment



# Option B Enhanced Lot Specific Directions

- Add lot directional information on signage
  - lot specific directional information
  - provides greater level of guidance
- Add lot identification signage
  - at each lot entrance
  - visible locations
- Add enhanced signage on key approaches
  - Eagle, Water, Timothy & Main



## 5. Pedestrian Wayfinding



### Pedestrian Scale Signage

- Helps orient visitors and residents within the Downtown
  - Particularly for Town Hall and other events
- Identifies key locations / landmarks in the downtown core:
  - Parking
  - Restaurants
  - Attractions
  - Transportation routes / trails
- Branding opportunity:
  - Linkage to area businesses
  - On-line mapping / information



**City of Thunder Bay Waterfront** 

# 5. Pedestrian Wayfinding



### **Other Municipal Examples**





