PROPOSED URBAN PARKING OVERLAY DISTRICT IN CAMP WASHINGTON

Economic Growth & Zoning Committee | June 22, 2021

BACKGROUND

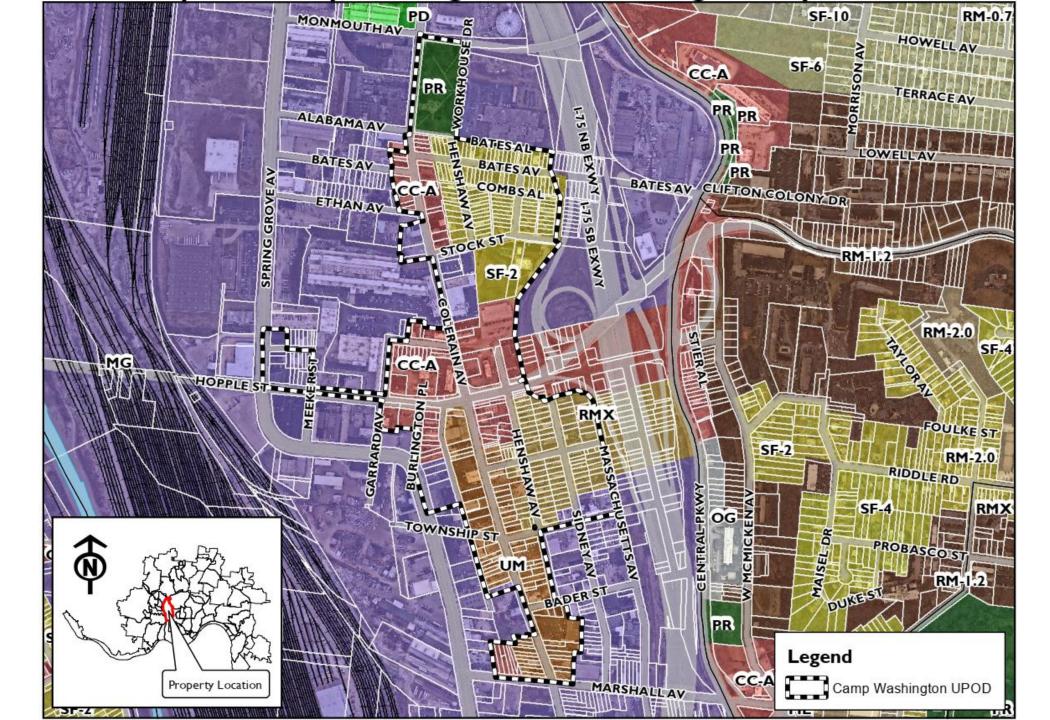
- August 7, 2013 Cincinnati City Council approved Ordinance 259-2013 for text amendments to the Cincinnati Zoning Code to Create Urban Parking Overlay Districts (UPODs)
- Urban Parking Overlay Districts eliminate all off-street parking requirements within the boundary
 - Parking can still be put in based on need, but is not required by the Zoning Code
 - All other standards, such as location of parking (if provided) and loading zones (if necessary) still apply



BACKGROUND

- In early 2019, Camp Washington re-zoned part of their Neighborhood Business District to Urban Mix (UM)
- UPOD #1: Urban Core was being discussed during this time
 - Camp Washington expressed interest in a UPOD at that time but wasn't ready to move forward
- March 1, 2021 The Camp Washington Community Board formally requested a UPOD for Camp Washington





PUBLIC COMMENT

- Notices sent to property owners within the proposed UPOD, along with the Camp Washington Community Council and Camp Washington Community Board
- Virtual Staff Conference held on May 18, 2021
 - Eight members of the public attended, including several members of the Camp Washington Community Board
 - Most in support, but some questions about what happens if parking becomes an issue in the future
- Letters of support from Camp Washington Community Council and Camp Washington Business Association
- Letter of opposition from a business owner



CONSISTENCY WITH MADE IN CAMP (2018)

- "Do something dramatic to jumpstart the business district" (p.19)
- "Analyze parking requirements and make necessary changes" (p. 23)

CONSISTENCY WITH PLAN CINCINNATI (2012)

LIVE INTIATIVE AREA

- Strategy: "Become more walkable"
- Action Step: "Revise the City's Building and Zoning Codes
 [...] with standards that emphasize traditional neighborhood
 development over suburban development"

SUSTAIN INTIATIVE AREA

- Goal 2: "Preserve our built history"
- Strategy: "Develop changes to zoning regulations to remove barriers to the adaptive reuse of buildings"



ANALYSIS

- The existing parking requirements were not intended for historic, dense urban areas
- Between parking exemptions (first 2,000 square feet in most commercial districts, streetcar reductions, etc.) and variances, existing parking requirements are not currently being met

CONCLUSIONS

- Minimum parking requirements are not designed to promote a high-density, walkable, pedestrian-friendly, and mixed-use environment, as well as a strong sense of character of place.
- The Camp Washington Community Board made the request, and the Camp Washington Community Council has provided a letter of support.
- Made in Camp (2018) and Plan Cincinnati (2012) do not support minimum parking requirements in urban neighborhoods



RECOMMENDATION

The City Planning Commission recommends that the City Council take the following action:

APPROVE the proposed map amendment to add Urban Parking Overlay District #2: "Camp Washington", as outlined in § 1425-04 - Urban Parking Overlay Districts in the Cincinnati Zoning Code, to a portion of Camp Washington

