

Crawford, Nicole

From: Seelbach, Chris
Sent: Monday, June 21, 2021 10:14 AM
To: Crawford, Nicole
Subject: Fwd: [External Email] Parking on 15 St. in Over the Rhine

Please file as a communication

Thank you
Chris

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Joseph Pflum [REDACTED]
Date: June 21, 2021 at 10:03:06 AM EDT
To: #COUNCIL <#COUNCIL@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Seelbach, Chris" <Chris.Seelbach@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Smitherman, Christopher" <Christopher.Smitherman@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Sundermann, Betsy" <Betsy.Sundermann@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Landsman, Greg" <Greg.Landsman@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Kearney, Jan-Michele" <Jan-Michele.Kearney@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Young, Wendell" <Wendell.Young@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Mann, David" <david.mann@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Mosby, Stephen" <stephen.mosby@cincinnati-oh.gov>, "Keating, Liz" <liz.keating@cincinnati-oh.gov>, CityManagerEmail <CityManager@cincinnati-oh.gov>
Subject: [External Email] Parking on 15 St. in Over the Rhine

External Email Communication

To Cincinnati City Council members and the City Manager:

I must comment on the willful removal of resident parking on 15th St. between Vine St. and Race St. Resident parking in Over the Rhine is a scarce resource. Everyone should be aware of this.

Around June 5, I was talking with my neighbors at 15th and Republic Sts. They stated they were told by a City of Cincinnati worker that he would be back to replace the "Resident Only" parking signs with "No Parking" signs. 15th St. has been permanently closed at Vine and Race to allow for expanded outdoor dining. This permanent closure caused the loss of 12 residential parking places.

During the public hearing presentations about the permanent closure of the streets in Over the Rhine, the removal of additional residential parking was never mentioned.

On June 7 I contacted Mr. Peppers at the City Planning Department about the possibility of planned parking changes. He replied within 24 hours. He stated that he had been in contact with the City Manager's office as well as DOTE. He relayed to me that they informed him that no loss of residential parking was planned.

On June 9 I contacted the City Manager's office to confirm what Mr. Peppers had said to me. I received a reply from Ms. Martindale that my inquiry had been received. She stated that the DOTE would reply to

me directly. One week later I had heard nothing. I sent her an email directly to inquire about receiving a reply from DOTE. As of this date I have had no reply from her or the DOTE.

On June 19 I was walking north on Republic St. My neighbors called me over to see the new "No Parking" signs. All the residential parking signs on 15th between Vine and Race had been removed. The signs on the north side of the street had been replaced with "No Parking" signs. The south side of the street has no signs at all.

So far 10 more residential parking spots have been eliminated from use on 15th St.

In 2015, during the ongoing development of Over the Rhine, parking became a significant issue. The residential parking plan was implemented. There has continued to be residential and commercial development in Over the Rhine. In the past year 16 apartments have been added in the 1500 block of Republic St. By the end of 2021 ,thirty-four more apartments will be added in the 1500 block of Republic St. Twelve more apartments will be added on 15th St. in between Republic and Race this year also. The residents of Over the Rhine realize it is a huge challenge to create more parking. Why are we removing existing residential parking?

With 15th St. permanently closed, it has certainly become a safer street. Cars are traveling at less than 5 miles an hour to go in and out of parking spots. Electric scooters are traveling at a higher rate of speed than the cars do.

As my one neighbor said "they don't care about us down here. They just want to make it so that people can come down here, party, and then go back to their houses in the suburbs." This type of behavior on the part of the city government only reinforces that belief. People have many opinions about Over the Rhine. It is viewed as an entertainment district by many. But people do live and work in this neighborhood too. The removal of the residential parking on 15th St is just another example to add to the list where development takes priority over the needs of the residents.

I would ask that the residential parking be restored to 15th St ASAP.

Best Regards,

Joseph J Pflum MD

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]