

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL **DATE:** June 7, 1999
FROM: Transportation Advisory Commission
SUBJECT: Pasadena Senior Center Parking

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approve the following recommendations to improve carpool usage by Pasadena Senior Center (PSC) users and open additional parking to alleviate a significant near-term and future parking shortage at the Center:

1. PSC will establish nine (9) "Preferred Parking" spaces in the 85 E. Holly on-site parking lot for vehicles with two or more occupants only;
2. PSC will establish an additional three (3) disabled parking spaces (total of five (5) disabled spaces) in the 85 E. Holly on-site parking lot;
3. PSC volunteers to park free-of-charge in the Holly Street Garage and not in the PSC contiguous lots;
4. PSC will not issue permanent or temporary membership cards solely for parking purposes;
5. Continue free-of-charge parking for senior users of the PSC at the Holly Street Garage facility; other users of the facility to be charged \$1.00 for parking with authorized validation from PSC;
6. Upon establishment of the "Preferred Parking" and Disabled Parking spaces, the eighteen (18) spaces in the Holly Street Garage currently designated "Senior Carpool Reserved" be changed to "Senior Parking, Reserved / 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM M-F"; the spaces to be available for General Parking at all other times; and
7. Staff and TAC continue to work with PSC and other stakeholders to discuss and recommend adjustments to the Senior Center Transportation Plan as necessary.

BACKGROUND:

In October 1997, after many months of meetings and discussions with the PSC Director, the Senior Center Transportation Plan, as supported by TAC was forwarded to the City Council. The Plan included a variety of parking arrangements, such as free on-street placard parking, reserved free carpool and unrestricted parking at a reduced parking rate of \$1 in the Holly Street Garage. The City Council acted to support the recommendations, with the exception of the \$1 parking fee, opting instead to provide free parking to the Senior Center membership based upon comments received from individual seniors.

In October 1998, PSC forwarded a letter to the City requesting the designated 18 senior carpool spaces be converted to general senior use. Upon completion of staff review and with staff support, this request was agendaized for TAC action at their January 1999 meeting. During the public comment period, senior representatives indicated the spaces were going unused, as they had been unsuccessful in establishing carpools with their membership. Upon conclusion of public comments, TAC members expressed

disappointment in the Center's efforts to accommodate the City's pressing need to reduce single occupant vehicle trips in the area and thus alleviate the apparent parking problem associated with the Center.

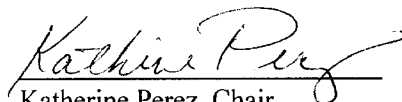
However, TAC did pass a recommendation to release eight (8) of the 18 carpool spaces, pending an opportunity for staff to further investigate a more comprehensive resolution of the immediate and ongoing parking problems. TAC believed that, while the Senior Center may have had little success in promoting carpooling efforts, providing incentives to carpool should not be entirely abandoned and the ten (10) carpool parking spaces should continue to be readily available and visible. This motion did not receive support from the senior representatives present nor the PSC Director, so staff and TAC were asked to continue to work with PSC towards a compromise resolution.

A Subcommittee of TAC was appointed to formally discuss alternative proposals with the PSC Director. These recommendations are a result of that discussion process. At their May 14, 1999 meeting, upon receiving comments of support from the PSC Director and a Senior Commission representative, TAC supported the recommendations moving forward for City Council approval. The TAC, PSC Director and staff believe this recommendation is the best method by which to address the Center's immediate and ongoing needs.

Staff will be monitoring these recommendations, including the usage of the nine preferred spaces and will report back to TAC in 6 months. Should it be determined that the nine preferential spaces are not being fully utilized, the PW&T Director shall have the authority to reduce the preferred space requirement to not less than five.

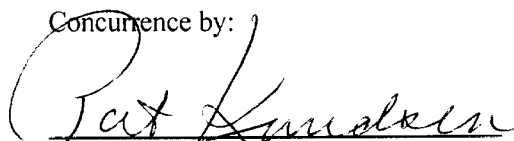
The General Plan states that Pasadena will be a city where people can circulate without cars. The current recommendation not only encourages carpooling, thus reducing single occupancy vehicle trips and helping to move toward a less car dependent city, but recognizes the mobility issues unique to the Senior Center and provides a mechanism for user and community input for adjustment of the plan.

Respectfully submitted,



Katherine Perez, Chair
Transportation Advisory Commission

Concurrence by:



Pat Knudsen, Director
Pasadena Senior Center