Long Beach residents working to fix our parking.

Transportation And Parking Solutions



My name is Debbie Dobias. I live at 100 Atlantic Avenue in Long Beach. I am President of TAPS.

I understand that the city cannot require more parking in these buildings than the code requires. You can review the parking requirements before approving any more buildings.

In 2013, during the site plan approval for the first building under the Downtown Plan, the Planning Commission emphasized that they wanted Condition JJ to protect our area if it was shown that there wasn’t enough parking in the new building. Afterwards, we found out that condition was completely unenforceable.

The Downtown Plan’s parking requirements were not based on data. The disappearance of parking lots was not addressed. In 2012, the skimpy evaluation of cumulative effects could not foresee the impact of more buildings added and changed over the next 5 years.

Fast forward to 2015 and again in 2016 when the Planning Commission made comments that they wanted a study session on the parking requirements at the earliest time possible. One commissioner asked whether there was evidence as to whether those buildings were sufficiently parked.

Now in August 2018, many buildings have been approved with inadequate parking. There is clear evidence that the first building under the Downtown Plan does not have enough parking. There are signs on the full parking lot next door saying, “PRIVATE PARKING. The Current and Starbucks PARKING ONLY. ” The second building will soon take away that lot.

320 Alamitos is just 3 blocks away. The area is already seriously parking impacted.

**What can the Planning Commission do?**

1. Recommend that the City Council declare a moratorium on new project approvals until the parking study is completed.
2. Recommend a change to parking requirements so that developers perform mini parking studies.  This method is not expensive for developers and is not new to Long Beach.
3. Notify developers that residential street parking passes will not be available to their residents.
4. Implement the recommendation from the city’s own parking consultant. Partner with some developers to add public parking to the new buildings. There is money coming from the RDA properties that is slated for downtown projects and could be used for this recommendation.