



March 15, 2019

TO: Public Works Commission

FROM: Nicole Losch, PTP, Senior Planner
Elizabeth Gohringer, Associate Planner

RE: AMENDED MEMO: Parking Meter Removal for Parklet Pilot

Recommendations

Staff recommends the Commission amend the following parking regulations, effective on issuance of an Encumbrance Permit for a parklet and terminating on October 1, 2019:

Designated three hour parking:

(7) On Main Street between South Champlain Street and Battery Street, except the first two spaces west of South Champlain Street on the south side of Main Street;

Designated streets with no time limit metered parking:

(7) Bank Street from St. Paul Street to Winooski Avenue, except the two spaces on the south side of Bank Street in front of 185 and 189 Bank Street;

(9) College Street from St. Paul Street to Winooski Avenue, except the first space on the south side of College Street east of Church Street;

Introduction

The Department of Public Works' (DPW) and the Community and Economic Development Office's (CEDO) parklet pilot program was introduced to the Commission at the February 2019 meeting. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was released and the RFP deadline was extended to March 11, 2019. Five applications were received and were scored by a review team on March 14th. Parklets were proposed near The Archives Bar (191 College Street), Drifter's Restaurant and Bar (156 North Winooski, not within a parking meter zone), El Cortijo (189 Bank Street), The Gryphon (131 Main Street), and Restaurant Poco, a new business coming to 55 Main Street. A map of the proposed parklets is attached.

The review team included representatives of the DPW, CEDO, Planning & Zoning, and the Chamber of Commerce. Proposals were selected that demonstrated the most potential for success, the most

demonstrated support, and a balance of locations. The five applications were scored on a scale of 1 – 5 based on:

1. Quality of the proposal
2. Support of nearby businesses(s)
3. Suggested use and maintenance plan
4. Appropriate location
5. Demonstrated ability to deliver
6. Innovation and creativity
7. Benefit to an underserved neighborhood

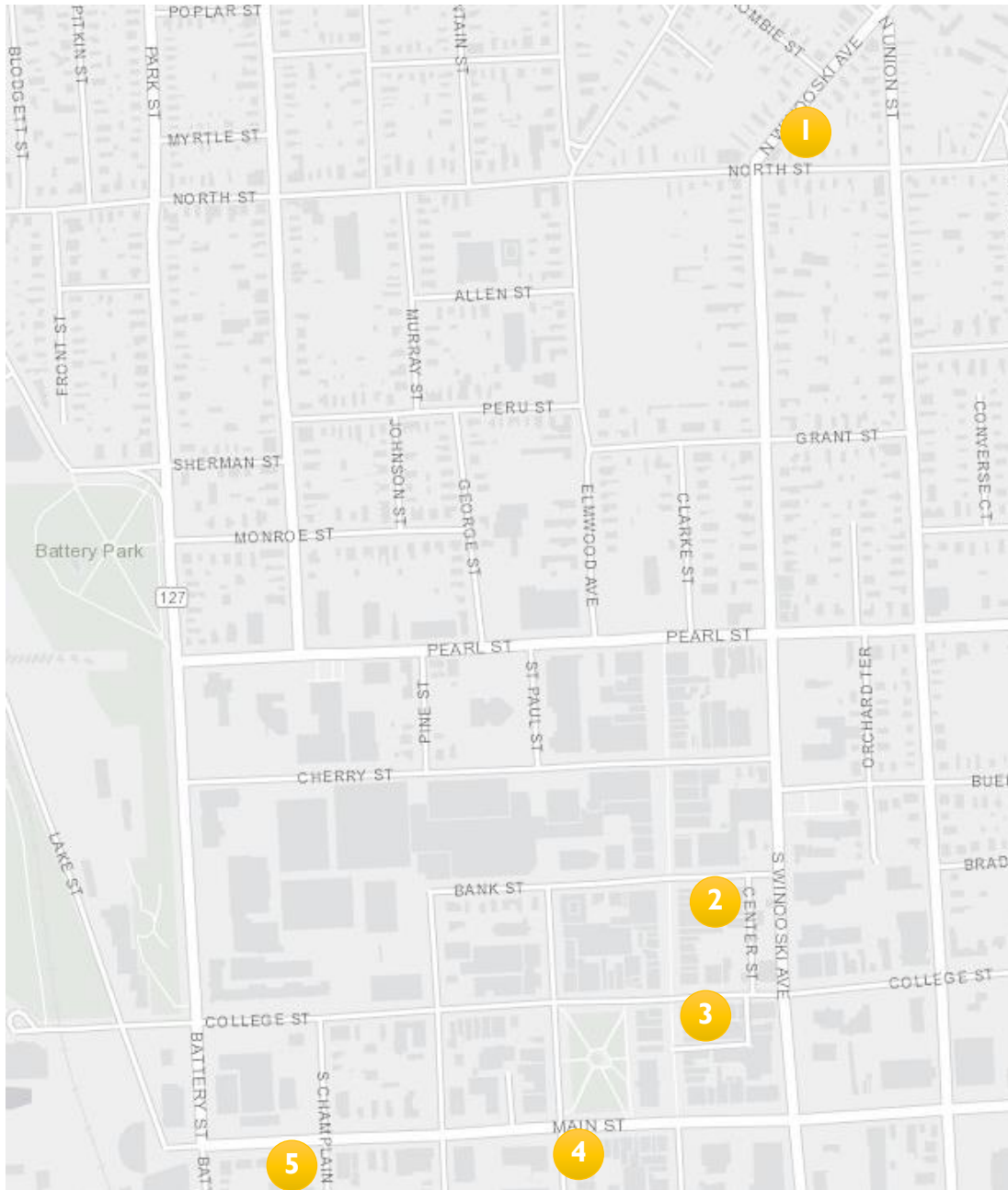
Based on these criteria, the highest-ranked proposals were at El Cortijo and Restaurant Poco. These ranked highly because of their thoughtful proposals, their locations, and El Cortijo's support from neighboring businesses. The Archives Bar was ranked highly for its thoughtful proposal and daytime hours open to the public, but did not have as much demonstrated support from neighboring businesses. Drifter's Restaurant and Bar was ranked highly for its location, partnerships with nearby businesses, neighborhood benefit, and daytime hours open to the public, but did acknowledge a need for a construction partner to fully define their concept. Finally, The Gryphon did not rank as highly due to their location near active construction sites that will also impact parking, alternative seating options available on the adjacent sidewalk, and a parklet concept that did not meet Great Streets standards. Most significantly, this location would impact the temporary loading zones established on Main Street during St Paul Street reconstruction.

Each proposal offers a unique location to test the various aspects of parklet management and use. However, a parklet is not recommended on Main Street at The Gryphon during the pilot program due to the potential conflicts. We have spoken with The Gryphon applicant and they will apply for an amended encumbrance permit for sidewalk seating instead. They remain interested in a parklet in the future and we look forward to working with them at that time.

At the end of the pilot season, applicants will be asked to respond to a survey or questionnaire to gauge the benefits and impacts of their parklet. Similar surveys will be shared with parklet visitors and nearby businesses. This information and other details from the 2019 pilot will inform the policies that should be in place to establish a successful Parklet Program.

DPW and CEDO staff will present additional information at the March 2019 Commission meeting.

Parklet Applicants



1. Drifter's Restaurant and Bar, 156 North Winooski Avenue: parklet covering 2 unrestricted parking spaces, open to the public until 5pm Tuesday – Saturday and all day Sunday – Monday
2. El Cortijo Taqueria and Cantina, 189 Bank Street: parklet covering 2 metered parking spaces, open to the public until 11am daily
3. The Archives Bar, 191 College Street: parklet covering 1 to 2 metered parking spaces, open to the public until 4pm Monday – Friday and until noon Saturday – Sunday
4. The Gryphon, 131 Main Street – parklet covering 1 to 2 metered parking spaces, open to the public until noon Monday – Friday and until 11am Saturday – Sunday
5. Restaurant Poco, 55 Main Street: parklet covering 2 metered parking spaces, open to the public (business hours in development)