

## Notes regarding parking study:

Did you know that consultants are again proposing parking meters in SoCo, including on residential streets within 2-3 blocks of South Congress?

The Mobility Committee took part in the \$300,000 SoCo Parking Study. Pressure from increased commercial activity on the nearby neighbors Include: blocking driveways, closing streets, and greatly increased construction and/or employee parking. Will the Study's recommendations help or hinder nearby residents?

### SoCo Parking Study Draft Recommendations:

- a. The consultants claim that about 2/3 dollar spent on parking will pay for improvements, such as sidewalk.
  - b. However, the proforma of the East Side Parking and Transportation District shows that only about one third of the dollars paid by customers, merchants, employees and visitors is profit after expenses, and \$.17 of every \$1 goes to improvements for the District, [[Slide One](#) and [Slide Two](#)]
  - c. Furthermore, the Study found that a great deal of the parking on South Congress was used all day long by downtown workers who park in SoCo and take the bus downtown. Thus employees seeking free parking may go deeper into the neighborhood.
- II. Other solutions, including some recommendations of the Study that were not highlighted like the parking meters [[Slide 3](#)]
- a. Enforce regulations in place. Often building permits require a certain number of parking spaces based on square footage and other factors, but if employees can't park in those spaces or if the spaces are leased out to others long-term, the neighbors feel the pressure of increased employee and customer parking on residential streets.
  - b. Affordable Parking in the new 497-space garage on Music Lane
- III. Overhaul the Residential Parking Permit Program (RPP)
- a. Residents often apply for RPP after many months of frustration. It's a lot of work.
  - b. The consultants recommend that the spaces should serve all the District willing to pay a meter. Residents would be able to park for free if a space was available.
  - c. Allow employees to buy Residential permits.
  - d. City staff stated that they will not grant any more RPP in the area until the SoCo Parking Study has been submitted to Council and perhaps not until the recommendations are implemented.
  - e. Please hold any questions for me until after the meeting. You can use your chat function or email me at [mobility@srccatx.org](mailto:mobility@srccatx.org).