

**From:** [Barbara Bauer](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed planting taking away parking at Pioneer Park  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 7, 2021 11:29:51 AM

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I frankly think this is not a good idea at all. The parking is needed and there is no reason to spend money at planting at that particular spot. Where are all of us supposed to park if you take away that particular spot. Some of us are elderly with dogs to walk and it is too hard to park across the street at the QFC lot. Please restore that area to parking for all of us. Thank you.. Barbara Bauer

**From:** [alex bau](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Subject:** 84th st parking  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 11:08:10 AM

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Dear Sir/Madam:

I note your restriction of parking on 84th Ave near Pioneer Park. **IT IS APPALLING !** Mercer Island has almost no available public parking space and you intend to cut it down even more? We do not have enough trees and greenery that requires expensive maintenance and burdens us with recurrent power outages? The 84th Ave space is used for parking by walkers, especially elderly ones, utilizing one of the few available areas of level ground on the South end where such can be done. Could someone please think a little about facilitating the parking resources for the residents of this community rather than the greenery that we are obliged to pay for in return for continuing and recurrent inconvenience as well as actual damage caused by its wildlife?

HELP !!!  
alex baumgarten

**From:** [Jackie Bollen](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Subject:** Pioneer Park parking  
**Date:** Saturday, September 11, 2021 2:28:02 PM

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I am not in favor of removing off-street parking at Pioneer Park unless some other parking is provided.  
Jacqueline Bollen

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Cohen, Don](#)  
**To:** [Alaine Sommargren](#); [Lisa Anderl](#)  
**Cc:** [Alaine Sommargren](#); [Jessi Bon](#)  
**Subject:** 84th Avenue parking  
**Date:** Saturday, August 7, 2021 11:29:24 AM

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Hi Alaine and Lisa—I had seen on the Open Space Conservancy Trust agenda for the July Board meeting the item about parking on 84<sup>th</sup> Ave. This morning, I watched that portion of the meeting video. I had a few thoughts to share during this “pilot” period, although I’m not sure which way they cut. I also went over to that area (I live close—near 84<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 61<sup>st</sup> St.) after I watched the video, talked to one person and took some photos (see below). I’ll comment on those in a moment. The photos were at 10:30 a.m. or so this morning, a Saturday with weather in the low 60s and cloudy. Here are my comments.

1. I was a little surprised in the meeting that fire risk of off street parking wasn’t directly mentioned (although fire suppression infrastructure for the future was). I had thought that maybe, as hot and dry as it’s been and probably will continue to be in the future, maybe an idea was to keep cars, with their hot components and potential sparks, farther away from the park vegetation and grass margins. But maybe that was just my thought.
2. If parking is moved to all on street, is there increased risk of unhappy interactions among bicyclists, park users (e.g., dog walkers, walkers, and runners), and motorized vehicles—despite the fact that 84<sup>th</sup> Ave. may be overall wider than some other island streets?
3. Given the various potential interests, is more formal public engagement appropriate in the future, with publicized opportunity for public meeting comment?
4. The photos I took are interesting, understanding this is a Saturday and the weather isn’t as warm and sunny as it’s been.
  - There is a dark car parked near the 68<sup>th</sup>/84<sup>th</sup> intersection.
  - There is a white car parked on the street just south of the cordoned off area.
  - There is one red car parked on the street in the cordoned off middle area near the trail entry, faced the wrong way. I nicely chatted with the owner, who had his dog, too. After asking permission to ask him a few questions and telling him why I was asking, I inquired what the message was he gleaned from the poles, ropes, etc. He replied that they obviously want people to park on the street. We talked a little about bike users, and he said he is one. I asked him which side of 84<sup>th</sup> he rides on if he is riding north between 68<sup>th</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup>, and he said he rides on the east side, even tho the striped walking lane is on the west side, and he does that because bikes are supposed to be on the side going with traffic. [BTW—this is what I do also). He wasn’t really too concerned about having less width for biking. He did comment that the city has more difficult issues than this one to deal with.
    - There were 4 cars or so parked at the northmost parking area.
    - Three cars with dogs pulled up and parked on the west side of 84<sup>th</sup> across the street from the north parking area. The two front ones are parked on gravel. The third one is parked on parched grass, fairly close to a new tree that’s been planted along with a few

others.

5. I also ran into a man I know who walks his dog on 84<sup>th</sup> regularly. After I told him a little about the issue, he wondered about possible increased negative interactions between some people if, for example, cars had to park on the street and drivers (parked the right way) opened their doors without first checking for bicyclists and walkers.

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I'm not sure where all of this leads, other than to suggest that there are various constituencies that might be interested: e.g., park users (walkers, dog owners, runners, mountain bikers); on-street bicyclists; on-street walkers, homeowners backing up onto 84<sup>th</sup> Ave.; the public in general. The "pilot" cordoning off idea may provide some useful information, as may observations at various times of day and week. Different members of the public may well have different views on this issue, too.

I hope these thoughts and the photos below are useful.

Don

**Donald S. Cohen**

**T 206 676 7531**













Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Natalie Coombes](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Subject:** off street parking  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 31, 2021 4:40:55 PM

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Yes please don't allow motorists park in the grass, vegetation. They should park in the street; that's where cars belong. And I know there are homeowners who illegally park off road in the vegetation at south Mercer playfields on a regular basis because their driveways and garages aren't big enough for all the vehicles and boats they own. The island is beautiful and these motorists are ruining the natural beauty of it.

**From:** [Ken Glass](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Subject:** iParking near 84th ave SE and Pioneer Park  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:31:43 AM

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I like the idea of restoring the land to parkland instead of having people park there.

Thanks!  
Ken

*The best source for gifts: [www.karaartwork.com](http://www.karaartwork.com)*

**From:** [Ralph Jorgenson](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Cc:** [Council](#)  
**Subject:** Fencing along Pioneer Park  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 31, 2021 5:34:55 PM  
**Attachments:** [Screen Shot 2021-08-31 at 5.33.34 PM.png](#)

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Regarding the temporary fencing off the easement area along pioneer park from parking (along 84th Ave SE Pioneer Park). I very much appreciate this as it helps keep cars on the street (a street that is wide enough to handle on-street parking) while reserving the park for plants, trails, etc.

Great idea.

Best regards,  
Ralph Jorgenson  
8040 84th Ave SE



**From:** [Sally Loeser](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Subject:** Pioneer park pilot project  
**Date:** Sunday, September 5, 2021 4:30:32 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

Please take down the ropes near West entrance at middle of west section of Pioneer Park. It makes it very hard for passengers to exit vehicles and get back in, puts those walking along side park into the moving traffic on road, and narrows the road because cars are now forced to park at a distance from rope to get children and passengers out. Bikers and those on electric scooters are now at increased danger from car doors being opened. If you are looking for projects to do, it would be great to have trash receptacles back on bike path, pocket parks etc. and pocket parks need some care that has been sorely lacking over past year.

Thanks,  
A daily MI park user

Sent from my iPhone  
Sal1002@comcast.net

**From:** [patricia peters](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Subject:** Pioneer park project  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 14, 2021 11:03:20 AM

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It has always seemed to me, because people have always parked off the road, that parking on the road is not ok? If it is fine to park on the road, then that works! I feel like it will be a massive endeavor to get plants growing on that strip and wonder if it is worth the money and effort?  
But I do love the park and appreciate all you are doing!

Patricia peters

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Stan Shurygailo](#)  
**To:** [Restoration Natural Resources](#)  
**Subject:** Restoration at 6730-6740 84th Avenue Southeast, Mercer Island, WA  
**Date:** Thursday, September 2, 2021 1:07:51 AM

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Hi,

I live at the south end and regularly park in this area. I would pull up off the street for the following reason. There is a lot of foot traffic on that street, and often it is the type of foot traffic that is more than one person wide, such as a group walking side to side or someone with dogs. As there is no sidewalk, they tend to take a 6-10 foot wide swath. With no parked cars and the full width of the road, there is plenty of space for the pedestrian swath, any bicycles coming through, and cars going both ways.

I think that pushing the cars out onto the street will just push the pedestrians into car traffic. This is a slow road without too much traffic, so not a huge issue. But consider the case when it is dark early, people are parked there, and other people are now walking in the traffic lanes - add a rainy day when they have a hood on and can't see/hear behind them. Having as much space as possible helps keep everyone safe and in their own lanes.

I fully agree that a restoration is needed, but my suggestion would be to keep 3 or 4 well defined parking spots off the road by the trailhead - perhaps defined by wooden barriers/ties. The first few cars would probably park in those, keeping the street fully available for other uses. Then most of the time the full width of the street would be available; of course, for the rarer times when there are more cars, they'd now have to park in the street. I think this would allow restoration of 70% or more of the area with minimal impact on the traffic patterns.

Thanks for the opportunity to provide feedback.

-Stan Shurygailo