



WALKER
CONSULTANTS



City of Mercer Island

Town Center Parking Study RFP

Walker Consultants Interview, Mercer Island City Council

November 9, 2021

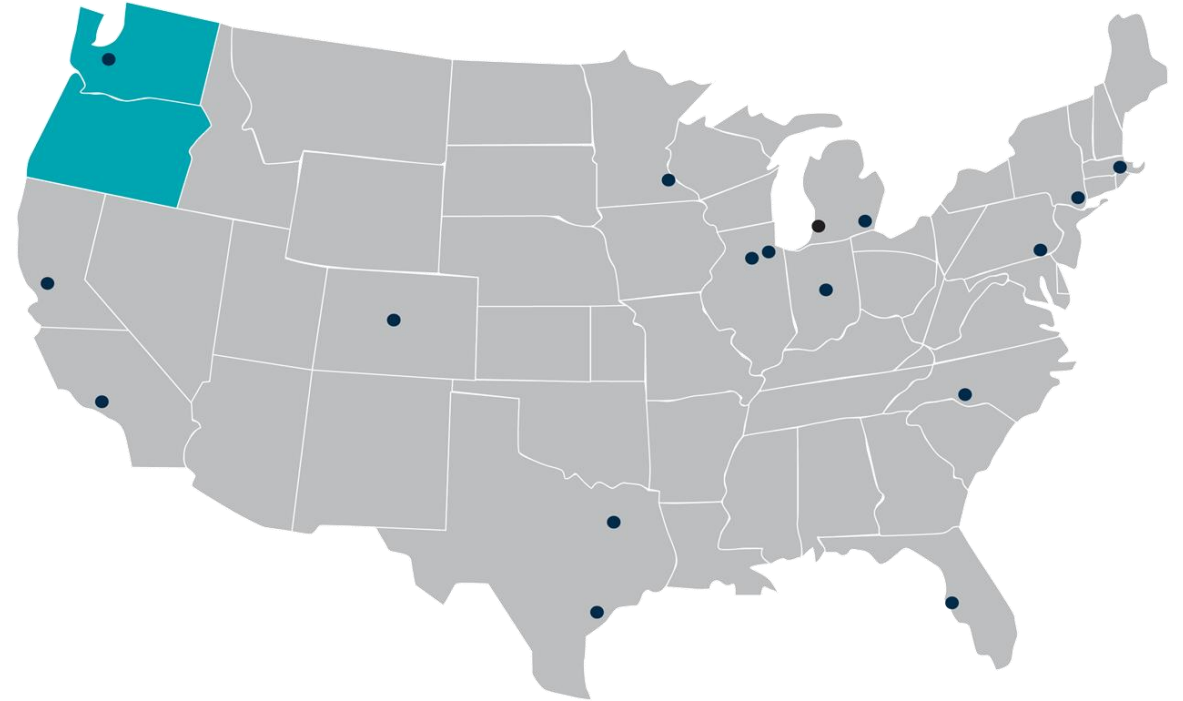
What Does Walker Do?

We are planners, engineers and designers with more than 50 years in the parking, land use, and mobility field.

We advise hundreds of cities and towns throughout the nation on policy, financial and operational issues around parking, transit, and transportation demand management.

We are former transportation managers and directors at cities, MPO's, universities, hospitals, airports, and transportation service providers.

National firm with our full-service Seattle office, west coast region effort.



Project Manager



Chrissy Mancini Nichols

- National Director of Curb Management and New Mobility
- 18+ Years in parking and transportation, background in public finance
- PM for dozens of parking studies
 - **Maximize parking assets and the curb to encourage economic development and create better places**
- Led strategies to pass legislation at the federal, state, and local level, including two federal transportation reauthorizations
- Led a strategy to fund \$10 billion in transportation investments through value capture financing
- Led evaluation of public-private partnerships for parking and transit
- More about me at www.mycuriouscity.com

Project Team Overview

Chrissy Mancini Nichols
Project Management



Steffen Turoff
Principal/Senior Advisor



Tania Schleck
Code Regulations Analysis



Jeff Weckstein
Shared Parking Analysis



Manuel Soto
Deputy PM, Transit and TDM
*Former Sammamish Planning
Commissioner*



Mallory Baker
Community Engagement Lead



Jonathan Wicks
Technology and Operations



Bobby Mordenti
Wayfinding and Urban Design



Project Goals

We believe there are **four key goals** for this project:

- Assess adequacy of existing parking supply and develop policies/mechanisms to regulate and maximize its use
- Manage on-street and off-street parking, and spur economic development and public space activation
- Manage access to the Mercer Island Station and demand for commuter parking
- Evaluate parking code to ensure it works for the near and long-term



Outreach & Engagement

Ongoing Engagement

Checking Boxes: We've held 100 meetings!

vs.

Collaboration: We've elicited feedback from a diverse range of constituents and incorporated that feedback appropriately into our deliverables

Our Guiding Principles

- Community and stakeholder engagement as a qualitative **data collection effort**
- **Foundational questions** that build a shared vision of success and assuage fears about the project
- **Directional** questions that help steer the project towards a solution that will work
- Consensus questions that **measure and/or affirm** support of the selected solution(s)



Revitalizing Access in the City of Boulder

- **Collaborative, meaningful public engagement** conducted in the time of COVID
- Project Digital Hub- a one-stop, layered opportunity for education, resources, and engagement
- Virtual Engagement Modules responsive to **community burnout**
- Targeted opportunities for engagement with **highly impacted populations**
- **Nearly 10,000 participants**, in alignment with demographic goals
- Ongoing engagement with business owners to solve **real day-to-day problems and concerns**

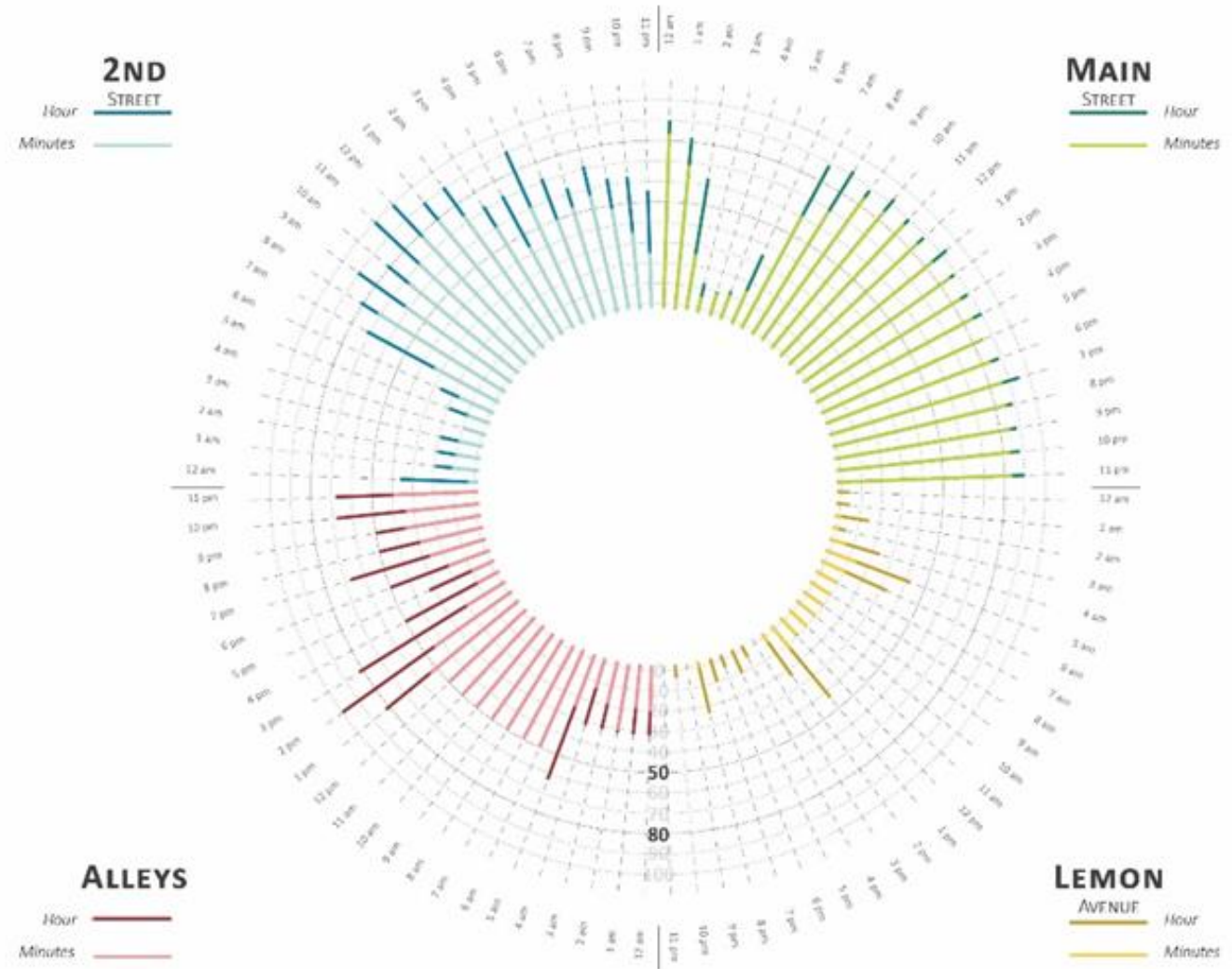


Technical Analysis

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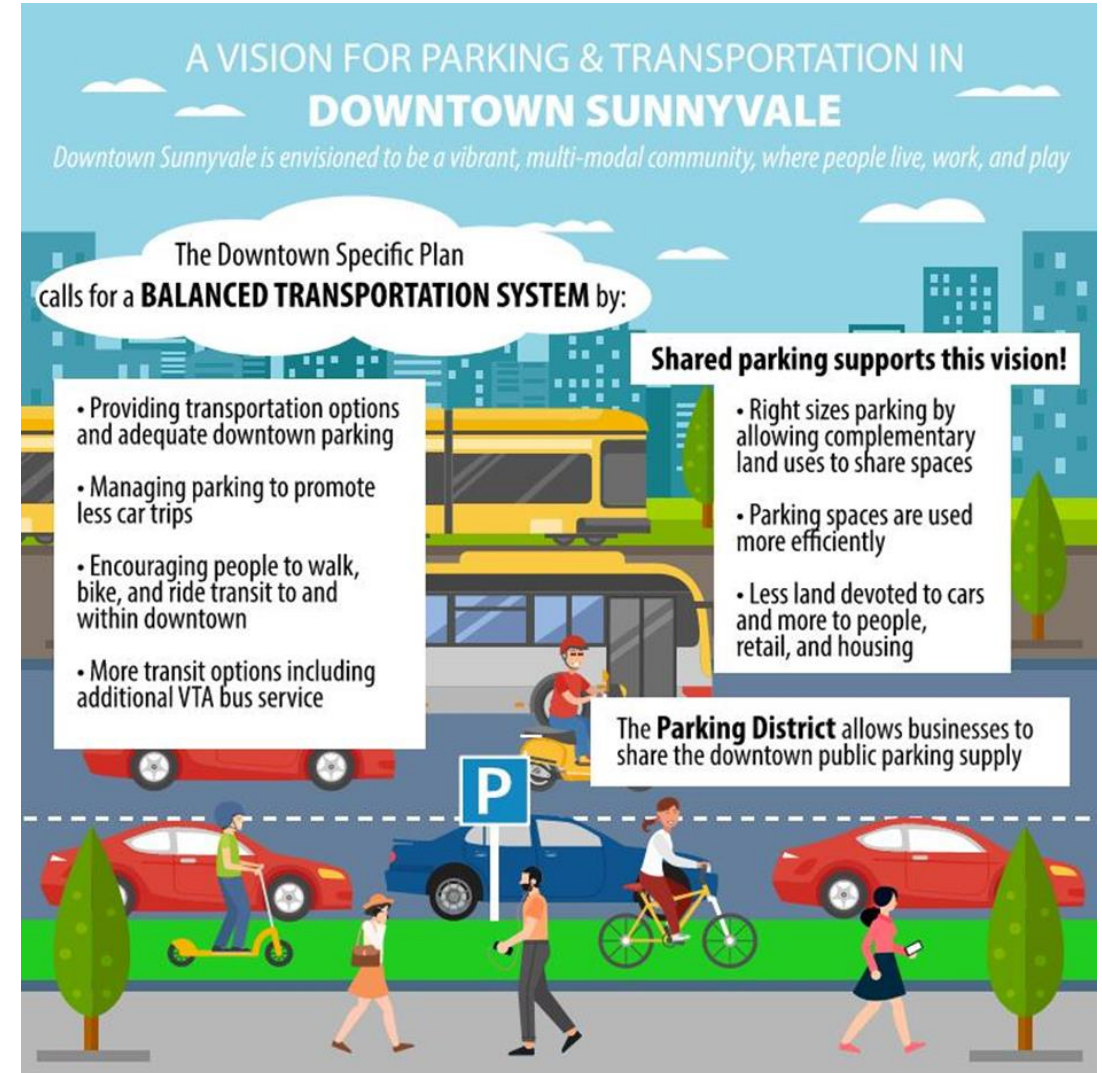
- Analysis of parking supply and demand
- Policy, plans, and regulatory evaluation
- Future parking demand
- Manage competing demands between **on-street parking deficits** and **off-street parking surpluses and future demand**
- Tactical measures to activate public space and spur economic development
- Opportunities for **curb management**
- **Shared parking**
- Policy development
- Management plan
- Implementation

**Curb Use Activity:
Hour Occupancy compared to Minute Occupancy**



Sunnyvale Shared Parking & Management Study

- Analyzed parking demand conditions, **code and regulations**, and capacity of downtown parking near transit
- Implemented a **shared parking strategy** between public and private user groups to accommodate demand in alignment with comprehensive plan goals:
 - Maximize existing investments in parking assets
 - Accommodate new development
 - Make parking more convenient for everyone
- Recommended management, **enforcement, technology, and organizational structure**
- **Modernized parking code**



Curb and Right-of-Way Activation

Tactical Planning & Wayfinding

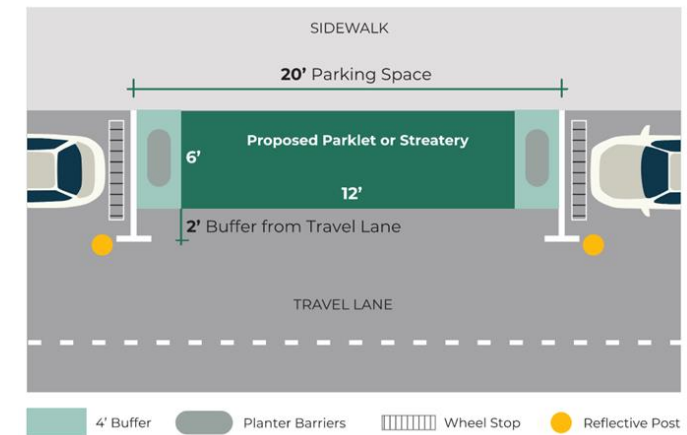
- Wide streets with no on-street parking or sidewalk buffer
- Perceived distances limit access to off-street parking
- Accommodation of online delivery services and pickup/drop-off activity
- Opportunities for activation through parklets and street eateries
- Opportunities to reclaim space for people
- Wayfinding and traffic calming



Benicia Parking & Activation Strategy

Parking and Mobility Plan & Parklet Program

- Vibrant waterfront, walkable with unique shops, restaurants and thriving arts community
- On-street and off-street parking supply and demand analysis; **parking management** recommendations
- Identified **walkability** and **bike** access improvements
- Created a **shared parking** strategy
- Crafted **parklet/streatery program**, including design standards, regulations and fees



Why Walker Consultants?

- ❑ We understand the challenges facing Mercer Island and have **extensive experience of direct relevance.**
- ❑ We know that **parking is important but ancillary.**
- ❑ We will work to **develop consensus** and achieve the community's vision.
- ❑ We will offer practical and sustainable solutions.
- ❑ We will bring a fresh perspective, **honesty and no ideologies.**
- ❑ We are going to **field the hard questions!**

Thank you!