

TOWN OF MONCK'S CORNER REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, September 15, 2026

Title: Consideration of Main Street On-Street Parking Improvements

Background:

The Town has been working with SCDOT to formalize the existing on-street parking along Main Street through pavement markings and defined parking spaces. The original parking study anticipated approximately 44 marked parking spaces. By comparison, the study estimated that approximately 47 vehicles can currently park along the corridor when vehicles park informally without marked spaces.

The purpose of the project was not solely to establish parking capacity. Formalizing the parking was also intended to better organize where vehicles park, keep vehicles farther from intersections and driveways, create a visual narrowing of the roadway that encourages slower traffic, and improve safety for pedestrians and individuals entering and exiting parked vehicles.

During SCDOT's review, the number of spaces that could be formally marked was substantially reduced because SCDOT requires marked parking spaces to remain outside required intersection sight-distance triangles. Although vehicles currently park within many of these areas, SCDOT advised that it would not approve formally marked spaces within the sight triangles.

The review process proceeded as follows:

Original Concept – 44 spaces: The Town's study identified approximately 44 spaces that could be formally marked along Main Street, slightly fewer than the approximately 47 vehicles estimated to park there today without markings.

May 2026 – Sight Distance Review: SCDOT required the removal of proposed spaces located within intersection sight-distance triangles. The initial application of these requirements eliminated a majority of the proposed spaces. In one section between Unity Park and the railroad, only 10 spaces could initially be accommodated; planned changes associated with the Town Square redevelopment would have resulted in a net of approximately seven spaces in that area.

June 2026 – Additional SCDOT Coordination: Town staff and the Town's engineer continued working with SCDOT to determine whether additional spaces could be retained. SCDOT agreed to use a 10-foot driver-eye location for intersection sight-distance calculations and generally required marked spaces to remain at least 20 feet from individual driveways.

Based on those revised criteria, the engineer identified 17 spaces that fully met SCDOT's requirements and an additional five spaces that were within the 20-foot driveway offset.

The Town also provided SCDOT with three years of collision data. That information identified four crashes involving parked vehicles and four failure-to-yield crashes involving vehicles entering Main Street. Staff argued that formally organizing parking could improve existing conditions by establishing defined parking locations and clearer restrictions near intersections and driveways.

June 18, 2026 – SCDOT Concessions: SCDOT confirmed that the 17 compliant spaces could remain and indicated that concessions could potentially be made for the additional five spaces, particularly near entrance-only driveways, with the exact locations to be resolved during final permit review.

As a result of this process, the maximum anticipated number of formally marked spaces is now 22, approximately half of the 44 spaces originally anticipated.

Moving forward with the project therefore involves a tradeoff. Formal striping would reduce the amount of parking that can currently occur informally along Main Street. However, it would establish a more organized parking pattern, improve visibility around intersections and driveways, provide clearer areas where parking is and is not permitted, and support the original traffic-calming and pedestrian-safety objectives of the project.

SCDOT has indicated that the Town may proceed with the existing permit application and work through the final location of the individual spaces during plan review. If Council wishes to proceed, staff would continue the permitting and final design process based on up to 22 marked spaces.

Exhibits: Remaining Space Exhibit

Funding: General Fund.

Town Council action requested: Consider whether to move forward with the 22-space design or leave Main Street parking unmarked.

