

City Council Considers Paid Parking

After many discussions about parking over the last few years, the City Council at its August 21st meeting voted to explore the feasibility of implementing a comprehensive parking management plan.

Steffen Turoff from Walker Parking Consultants presented several options to mitigate parking congestion around the plaza. The Council then directed staff to begin exploring the third option: implementation of a comprehensive parking management plan, which includes on-street paid parking on blocks that currently have a 3-hour parking limit.

Key benefits include increased parking capacity and availability in key locations, and generation of revenue to fund parking and transportation, among other community benefits.

Walker Parking Consultants will continue to assist City Staff with research on implementing paid parking and developing the parking management plan. The Council will further consider the plan in the near future for more discussion and feedback. For additional information, contact Interim Planning Director Maya DeRosa at 431-3346 or by email at mderosa@ci.healdsburg.ca.us.

Additional Parking for Downtown Area

The City Council awarded a bid for two projects that will provide 95 new parking spaces in the downtown area. Seventy parking spaces will be on the vacant portion of the City Hall site, commonly known as the Christmas tree lot. An additional 25 parking spaces will be at the West Plaza parking lot, located along the NCRA railroad right-of-way between Matheson and North streets.

The parking lots will include lighting, ADA-compliant parking spaces, and up to six new electric vehicle-charging stations. Other lot features include low-impact development measures to address storm water quality mandates, site drainage, islands and other features for future irrigated landscape. These two projects are anticipated to be complete before the end of the year. For additional information on the two parking lots, you can contact our Public Works Director Brent Salmi at 431-3346 or by email at bsalmi@ci.healdsburg.ca.us.

New Community Outreach Coordinator

Rhea Borja has been hired as the Public Communication and Community Outreach Coordinator. She started with the City at the end of August. Rhea will focus on expanding public access to timely, accurate and helpful information about the City and its services as well as to help formalize a community-engagement strategy, ensure its implementation in a timely manner, and improve the community outreach process. Rhea can be reached at rborja@ci.healdsburg.ca.us.