Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Advisory Board (AB)

09/16/21

Attendees

Betsy Bland-Thomas – Area 41

Jerry Moore – Area 20

Serena Watters – Area 15

Marlon Benjamin – Area 31

Steve Johnson – Area 28

Deb O'Neill – At Large

Michele Vitolo - Guest

Lt. Christian – Enforcement

Peter Little – PABC

Candace Nue – PABC

Brian Thompson – PABC

Steve Robinson – PABC

Absent

Doug Armstrong – Area 7

Nancy Hayden – Area 14

Mike Murphy – Area 30

Business

We began with a call to order, review of rules and roll call.

Updates

1. Request for Proposal (RFP)
    a. PABC is working on an RFP for a city-wide VPP system.
        i. They expect it to be ready in a month or so for AB review.
        ii. They hope to have it out for submission of proposals by Dec.
    b. There will be an evaluation panel with 2 AB members serving on it.
        i. Names of AB members who wish to serve will be requested by the end of the year.
    c. The AB will also be involved with
        i. Testing and feedback on the system that is selected;

        ii. Policies and Procedures for VPP and
        iii. Recommendations for enforcement of VPP and how best to enforce RPP going forward.
2. Election of AB Officers
    a. Steve Johnson was elected President (Deb O'Neill nominated and Betty Bland-Thomas seconded).
    b. Betty Bland-Thomas was elected Vice President (Pete Little Nominated and Deb O'Neill seconded).
    c. Deb O'neill was elected Secretary (Betty Bland Thomas nominated and Serena Watters seconded).
3. Operations Updates
    a. Steve discussed the recredentialing plan that is now in place.
        i. They plan to continue mailing credentials and are looking at charging a nominal fee ($3.75 for visitors passes and $4.25 for decals).
    b. Official PABC hours are still limited.
        i. They are open from 8:30-4:30 Monday through Friday with no extended hours.
        ii. They only allow 6 customers in the office at a time and they do a health screening and enforce social distancing.
    c. Mail is a slight challenge
        i. It is taking 10–15 business days for mailed credentials to be delivered.
        ii. The print-at-home credentials are working to fill this gap.
        iii. PABC does have ways to track the mailed credentials.
    d. Students
        i. Students come and go in some neighborhoods.
        ii. PABC manages this off of the leases, voiding permits for students that have moved and requesting notarized statements for renters without leases.
    e. Meters
        i. There are 882 Pay-By-Plate meters installed as of 09/16/21.
            1. These meters are enforced using handheld readers.
            2. There is no need to put receipts in car windows for these meters.
    f. Valet
        i. This has become a more active area.
            1. There are 30 valid loading zones with 33 licensed operators.
            2. Complaints can be posted on the PABC website (https://parking.baltimorecity.gov/valet)
            3. Invite Tiffanie to the next meeting.
    g. VPP
        i. Riverside's pilot began in mid-February.
            1. Feedback is great.
        ii. Ridgely's pilot will begin on Nov. 1.
            1. Mailers will be going out so that residents can create accounts and sign up for credentials.
            2. Ridgely's start date was delayed because of the governor's emergency order, which kept old credentials active until after the EO was lifted.

iii. License Plate Reader (LPR) Cars
    1. Plans are in the works, but not yet finalized, to have some of these cars working enforcement in the VPP pilot sites.
    2. The LPR is only about 80% effective in some areas because of the density of parking in some neighborhoods, but the car can do more passes than the Enforcement Officer, who is on foot.

h. Paid Parking on School Baseball Field
    i. A question was raised about paid parking being made available on a baseball field for an elementary school that has moved.
    ii. Recreation and Parks has control over that space.

i. Street Sweeping
    i. There is currently no enforcement and there may be none until the first of the year.

j. Enforcement of Stadium Days
    i. This is difficult because of staffing shortages.
    ii. The suggestion was made to call 311.

k. Enforcement from Aug 16-Sept 16
    i. They were enforcing all violations except street sweeping, parking in one spot for more than 48 hours and expired tags.
    ii. They wrote tickets for
        1. 1,028 stadium event violations and
        2. 10,876 for RPP violations.

l. Next meeting will be on 11/18.

m. Jerry motioned to adjourn and Betty Bland-Thomas seconded that motion.