

May 23, 2017

Stevenson City Counsel

Bigfoot Coffee Roasters LLC  
Melissa Still

Re: Parking Issues

Dear Council Members,

As a small business owner and resident of the area, I implore you to address the parking and traffic issues on SW Russell Ave. The only "one way" in Stevenson. There is not a day that goes by that someone goes the "wrong way" endangering pedestrians and vehicles that are turning onto the street. This issue is worse in the summer due to the tourist season.

- A one-way street poses a hurdle for businesses on Russell Ave. as well.

There is an issue with parking. Because there are no signs to indicate the use of the parking or a time limit, it has become the employee parking lot for many surrounding businesses. This has been causing animosity between us. We should be working together. Be it as it may, some people think they are entitled to park in front of other businesses the entire day. There is nowhere for customers to park. Stevenson is it's own worst enemy when it comes to this. I see it every morning. "So and so" parking in front of their neighbors business and goes to work all day somewhere else. I can point fingers but it is not necessary. However, I have been documenting and taking photos for a while. The post office has it the worst. Apparently their parking was taken away. I watch the elderly struggle to get out of their cars to get their mail because an employee from another business has taken the parking. I see it everyday.

Problem Solving Ideas:

1. If it is going to remain being a one-way street, then please change it to one lane with back-in parking similar to Hood River.
2. If you choose to make it a two-way street, please repaint the parking markers. Out front of 66 SW Russell it's painted for two vehicles when three will easily fit.
3. Please have a time limit on parking. The east side of SW Russell Ave. should be 30 minutes. The west side of S.W. Russell should be 1 hour. Post signs.

4. Loading and Unloading Zone/Permit – Or 30 minute parking limit
  - a. Bloomsbury uses their delivery truck all day. Last week, a person had a large truck and horse trailer parked in front of their delivery door, and the Florists had to double park and deal with all those heavy flowers. The truck belongs to an employee on Sw. Russell Ave. Unsafe.
  - b. Honey’s Thrift Store has a business where people delivery their items but also have to double park because an employee from another business has decided to park there all day. Unsafe.
  - c. Invision Construction was doing their build out during the ice storm. We (Me) plowed out the parking area and of course this employee from another business had it blocked making it difficult and dangerous moving lumber. Unsafe.
  - d. Bigfoot Coffee Roasters delivers and receives large bags of coffee and many supplies but also has to double park because parking by an employee from another business. Unsafe.
  - e. “Taters” is now open and where will their customers park?
5. Parking Meters for the whole city. Short term and long term.
  - a. Generate Revenue.
  - b. Merchants can give “Parking Coins” for paying customers.
6. Purchase the corner lot for parking on SW Russell Ave.
  - a. Could build a 2-3 story parking structure with a bar on top to lease out.

Statement: Having a parking issue is a good problem to have. That means people want to be here and spend money here.

Question: With the plans of the courthouse lawn moving forward.. just wondering where the people will park?

RIVERSIDE PARKING/PORT: Beautiful.. but no one wants to walk up the hill on a cracked sidewalk with poor lighting. It’s not very inviting. The cruise ship people complain about tripping all the time too.

A. Maybe we could utilize the golf carts from the fair grounds during the cruise ship days. It could be paid for by businesses sponsoring it. The business would be able to place their logo on the golf cart.

Thank you for your time,

Melissa Still  
Bigfoot Coffee Roasters