

City Clerk Staff

From: Barry Dutton <barry@landandwaterconsulting.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 7, 2023 12:10 PM
To: Jeff Collins; Joe & Nancy Elliot; John Heffernan; Richard Goldberg; Terry Egan; Ken Egan; Don Long; Donna Gaukler; rob.chaney@missoulian.com; Laura Lundquist; Daniel Schneider; Kathy Dutton; deveringham@bresnan.net; Bobbie Levesque; Ross & Sally Johnson Miller; Peter & Ginny Rice; Joan Richarde; Bob Skogley; Brain Steele; Jim Sylvester; Vicki Watson; Scott Wilson; Heidi West; Jennifer Savage (she/her); Grp. City Council and City Web Site; Mayor Staff
Subject: Knapweed on Conservation Lands
Attachments: WeedBoardLetterMay2023.pdf

Hi Folks,

For over 20 years I have been trying to get the Missoula Parks Department to control knapweed on our 7000+ acres of Conservation Lands (Open Space). There are currently 3-5 million knapweed plants on these lands - too many to hand pull. Sheep do not control knapweed since it just waits for the sheep to leave and keeps growing and producing plenty of seeds.

Knapweed releases chemicals that harm native plants and humans. 20% of the population is allergic to knapweed with effects including itching, rashes, hives, breathing problems and finger loss. I personally have experienced all these symptoms except finger loss and have almost died from anaphylactic shock. These lands should be a showcase of good management and not a weedy embarrassment. The Parks Department continues to refuse to initiate effective control methods for knapweed.

The Missoula Weed Board will meet from 4-6pm on May 18 to discuss knapweed control on Conservation Lands (2825 Sante Fe Court). Please attend the meeting or send an email to the Weed Board asking them to *control knapweed on Conservation Lands, especially along trails*. Attached is my letter to the board which I will discuss at the meeting. Please forward this email to any others you think are interested in a future of less knapweed. Let me know if you have questions. Thanks!

Barry L. Dutton

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406-240-7798



City Clerk Staff

From: Gwen Jones
Sent: Sunday, May 7, 2023 4:37 PM
To: sandie.viall@gmail.com; Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Re: Parking reduction

Hi Sandie, thank you for your email and your input based on your experience living in Missoula. I appreciate you taking the time to email us. It is always helpful hearing from folks in the community.

Council has not yet finalized any action on addressing parking immediately; either short term or long term, council will get input from the consultants who are working on code reform, to ultimately get a good product for Missoula that also helps keep housing costs down.

I will forward your email on to our engagement staff who are working on code reform, so they can incorporate it into their work. Thanks again, -Gwen

Gwen Jones
Ward 3 City Councilwoman
606 Woodford St., Missoula, MT 59801
406 549-3295

Note: All emails to and from this address are in the public domain.

From: sandie.viall@gmail.com <sandie.viall@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, May 6, 2023 1:18 PM
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site <Council@ci.missoula.mt.us>
Subject: Parking reduction

Greetings,

First of all let me express my appreciation for the difficult tasks you have all taken on in an effort to provide service to our community.

Although I often have many thoughts about the goings on at city council I seldom have written to express those thoughts. This time I feel compelled to write and say my piece as regards the current discussion about reducing parking spaces at new builds. I have been a Missoula resident since 1980. During that time I lived in at least 14 rentals. (Had to move a lot because landlords kept raising rents and I would be priced out of that home. This meant my children changed homes, schools and friends a lot 😞) I lived in a variety of homes such as trailer houses, apartments and single family dwellings, none of which had garages. Some had a designated parking space but most did not. This meant a constant struggle to be able to park in close proximity to my door. This was important because I had three small children (ages 4, 3 and 1) one of whom had Cerebral Palsy and didn't walk until he was 4 yrs. old. This meant either carrying him or using a stroller. Ever tried pushing a stroller 2 blocks through snow, ice or mud? Plus shepherding the other 2 little ones? And what if I have groceries or household items to bring in. Can't leave the kids in the car to take the groceries in and can't leave the kids in the house while I go back for the groceries. A parking spot directly in front of my door would allow me direct line of sight if the children were in the car or on the porch or in the doorway. As you can see...it was a real dilemma when I had no parking space. Another dilemma was when friends with children would come to visit and there were no visitor parking spots. Also, part of my work throughout the years was to conduct Home Visits that entailed carrying supplies to support those visits. When clients lived in apartment complexes

such as Creekside, good luck finding an open visitor space. Would often have to park by the office and carry all supplies through the complex to get to the apartment. Creekside did provide a visitor space for each of the buildings but most times those would already be occupied.

I now am fortunate enough to live in a home with a garage. I no longer have children at home and can park in the garage and bring groceries etc . directly into the house. However I live in a neighborhood that connects with a variety of small businesses and apartment houses. This means that the employees and apartment residents park all along the streets around my house because there are more employees and residents than there are designated parking places at their place of employment or residence.

(Happy to have the businesses and the employed people and the people who have a roof over their heads 😊)

It also means that my son with CP who can now walk short distances and uses public transport can be dropped off a block from my house. If he uses Mountain Line support services they often have to park precariously at the end of the sidewalk because there isn't room to pull fully in to the curb.

Although I fully appreciate the desire to provide more space for another building, or a garden or a small lawn, I am convinced that eliminating parking spaces is not the best answer to the problem. I encourage some long term, thoughtful problem solving be given to this issue.

Thanks for taking the time to hear public input!

Cordially,
Sandra Viall

Sent from my iPhone