

**Downtown Parking Advisory Committee
City of Bangor
Thursday, April 23, 2015
1:30 p.m.
Council Chambers, City Hall**

Meeting Agenda

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Discussion of New Parking Options (Memo included)
- 3) Other Business

Memo

To: Downtown Parking Advisory Committee
From: Councilor Ben Sprague
Date: April 23, 2015
Re: Downtown Parking

Here are my thoughts on the Downtown parking situation. I'd like to delay any changes for a few months in order to try to find a solution without adding paid parking. In the meantime, I have five ideas:

- 1. Increase the signage and publicity to existing parking garages and parking lots so people from out of town can find them more easily.**
- 2. Increase the parking ticket amount. If the risk of a \$15 fine doesn't alter behavior, maybe \$30 would.**
- 3. Mix up the walking routes of the parking enforcement personnel. If people are shuffling cars because they know and can time their exact routes, throw a twist into things. Even just doing this a few times would change people's behavior.**
- 4. Put every business and organization on notice that if they keep allowing employees to park and shuffle cars all day long that paid parking IS coming. Fortunately the public discussion so far on this topic is already accomplishing this.**
- 5. The Downtown Bangor Partnership could organize incentives like coupons or discounts for people to use the parking garage and in particular during busy times. This would help acclimate people to using the garages, which many people seem reluctant to do.**

I also think there are plenty of parking spaces (e.g. near All Souls Church, along the Waterfront, up Court Street, etc.) that are generally open and would only require people to walk a little bit further. We should encourage people to use those spots and walk a little further.

If these ideas don't improve things then maybe we'll need to go to paid parking Downtown, but not until we've exhausted every other option. I'm open to paid parking, but I do have some concerns with it.