

AGENDA #3a(1)

Mr. Horton and Carol,

I just spoke with Mr. Biek and he is aware of the project history regarding striping and meters on Cameron Avenue.

Mr. Biek requests that his e-mail, dated January 7th to the Council be treated as a written petition to reconsider their decision regarding parking meters on Cameron Avenue.

Mr. Biek is in support of the re-striping plan but not installing parking meters. He is also concerned that no Councilmember responded to his original e-mail dated January 7, 2005.

Striping plan on Cameron Avenue is completed and we plan to install parking meters within the next three weeks. If the Council refers Mr. Biek's petition to the staff, we will prepare a response for Council's consideration.

Thanks and please let me know if you need additional information.

Kumar Neppalli
Traffic Engineer
Town of Chapel Hill
Ph: 968-2833

From: Tom Biek [mailto:tbiek@nc.rr.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2005 8:15 AM
To: Cal Horton
Subject: RE: Citizen Comment RE: Cameron Avenue parking meters

Maybe the employees and elected officials of our town only cater to a particular group of our citizens. I thought that we citizens and tax payers might all have a voice and be given the courtesy of a response to our concerns by at least a couple of our representatives. You may not think that the idea of parking meters in your front yard is any thing to be upset about but I DO! I would appreciate a response to my concerns by SOMEBODY! Please do not let the meters go in and expect me to disappear. Tom Biek 730.1243

-----Original Message-----

From: Carol Abernethy [mailto:cabernethy@townofchapelhill.org] **On Behalf Of** Cal Horton
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2005 9:54 AM
To: Tom Biek
Cc: George Small; Bruce Heflin; Cal Horton; Catherine Lazorko; Emily Dickens; Flo Miller; Ralph Karpinos; Sandy Cook; Toni Pendergraph; Bill Strom; Cam Hill; Dorothy Verkerk; Ed Harrison; Edith Wiggins; Jim Ward; Jim Ward (w) ; Kevin Foy; Mark Kleinschmidt; Sally Greene (w)
Subject: Citizen Comment RE: Cameron Avenue parking meters

A copy of your email message has been forwarded to each Council Member.

Carol Abernethy
Exec. Asst., Manager's Office
Town of Chapel Hill

From: Tom Biek [mailto:tbiek@nc.rr.com]

Sent: Friday, January 07, 2005 7:35 AM

To: Town Council

Subject: Cameron Avenue parking meters

I am writing to ask that you reconsider the parking meter decision that you have made for our street. I would like to make the following comments for you to consider. First, Cameron Avenue is a residential street to a number of our residents. It may be viewed as a highway to the campus by some but it is our neighborhood! Second, this is designated an historic neighborhood by our town. We must involve the Historic Commission in all decisions regarding the exterior of our properties. Did this commission have any input into the addition of parking meters in this neighborhood? My third comment is a question. How many parking meters are there in front of residences in Chapel Hill and who among you would agree to having parking meters in YOUR front yard? The decision to change the vehicle/bike traffic pattern seems like a good choice but parking meters in an historic residential neighborhood is a bad choice! Please reconsider this decision before we have the meters installed. Tom Biek 428 West Cameron Avenue

**Item 3 - Petitions by Citizens and Announcements by Council Members
From January 24, 2005 Council Meeting**

3a. Petitions by Citizens on Items not on the Agenda.

3a(1). Mr. Tom Biek, regarding Cameron Avenue Parking Meters.

Mr. Biek, a resident of Cameron Avenue and of the Cameron-McCauley Historic District, said that he and one of his neighbors had not been aware that decisions regarding the restriping and parking meters had already been made. He said he would like to know how that had happened.

Mr. Biek said that as far as he knew, his neighborhood would be the only neighborhood in Town that would be "penalized" with parking meters in their front yards. He distributed an excerpt from the Town's historic district guidelines pertaining to the public right-of-way, noting that they should not have to pay to park in front of their homes, and in his case he will have one double meter and one single meter in front of his home. Mr. Biek said he believed the Council should revisit this decision, adding that he believes the historic district guidelines were not followed.

Mayor Foy asked Mr. Biek if he objected to the appearance of the parking meters or did he object to having to pay to park in front of his house. Or, he added, did he object equally to both. Mr. Biek said he does not often park in front of his home, adding he lives on the corner of Cameron Avenue and Cameron Court. He said his biggest concern is the appearance. Mayor Foy said if they could come up with different type of meter that was less objectionable, would Mr. Biek be satisfied with that. Mr. Biek stated he would.

Council Member Harrison asked Mr. Biek if he lived on the north side of the street. He responded he did. Council Member Harrison asked if he wanted his petition referred to the Historic District Commission. Mr. Biek responded that he believed the Town had violated the guidelines for historic districts, stating that he had had to go through a lengthy process to add a garage onto his home. He said the Town should have had to go through the same process to add parking meters. Mr. Biek stated that he believed there were about 40 parking meters being added on the north side of Cameron Avenue, and only eight homes are being affected. He said a small group was being affected, but it still did not make it fair.

Council Member Harrison asked if excising the parking meters from in front of residential homes would satisfy their concerns.

Mayor Foy said he believed the staff should be asked to consider Mr. Biek's concerns and look at alternatives to see if modifications were in order.

**THE COUNCIL AGREED BY CONSENSUS TO REFER THE PETITION TO THE
MANAGER AND TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION.**