

CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
January 6, 2026	6.d

TO: Mayor Benetti, Council President DiNovo, and City Councilors

FROM: Jennifer Wirsing, Public Works Director

THROUGH: Nichole Rutherford, City Manager

ISSUE: Consideration to Reduce On-Street Parking for the Proposed Front Street Multi-Use Trail Project

SUMMARY:

Council will consider the reduction of 14 on-street parking stalls to accommodate a proposed multi-use trail along N. Front Street between Cedar and Fir Avenue.

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it pleases Council, approve the reduction of 14 on-street parking stalls to accommodate a proposed multi-use trail along N. Front Street.

BACKGROUND:

The Front Street Blueprint, completed in June 2022, evaluated wayfinding, multimodal transportation, and safety improvements along the Front Street corridor between Market and Fir Avenue. During development of the Blueprint, several business owners expressed concern regarding potential loss of on-street parking. In response to those concerns, the City constructed a public parking lot between Cedar and Date Avenue, adding 37 new public parking stalls to support downtown businesses and visitors.

The City has now entered final design for the northern portion of Front Street, from Cedar Street to Fir Avenue. During the Blueprint phase, preliminary concepts anticipated approximately 30 on-street parking stalls along the east side of Front Street. However, detailed engineering and safety analysis completed during final design indicates that only 16 on-street stalls can be safely accommodated. This reduction is necessary to provide a consistent 12-foot-wide multi-use trail along the east side of the street that meets current safety and design standards.

It is recognized that any reduction in on-street parking has the potential to affect nearby businesses and property owners. To better understand these impacts, representatives from the Parks Commission's Bike and Pedestrian Fact-Finding Committee canvassed the area and spoke directly with affected businesses and property owners. Feedback was generally positive, and no significant concerns were raised regarding the proposed reduction in parking. In addition, 21 letters were mailed to Front Street property owners notifying them of the proposed reduction in parking along the east side of Front Street and advising that the issue would be brought before City Council for discussion. No responses were received.

While the loss of parking is not ideal, the Front Street Blueprint establishes a long-term vision that prioritizes safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Implementing that vision may require tradeoffs, including reductions in on-street parking. The anticipated long-term benefits include increased pedestrian and bicycle activity, improved safety, enhanced connectivity between downtown and the waterfront, increased business visibility and foot traffic, and a more welcoming environment for residents

and visitors. However, Council may want to preserve the on-street parking. If this is the decision, the project will still move forward, but there will be areas on the east side of Front Street where the width of the multi use trails are reduced and bicycle traffic may have to be directed to the west side of Front Street. This can be explored more if necessary.

Staff is recommending moving forward with the reduction of 14 parking stalls along the east side of Front Street so that a continuous 12-foot wide multi use trail can be accommodated.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

No budget impacts.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- 2025-11-25 FrontStreet Parking Summary Exhibit
- 2025-12-05 Front Street Notification and Addresses