

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Cheryl Provost

Address

10 23rd Ave, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Although I know how it feels to live off island and fight for parking, as a resident it has been so nice not having cars parked all over Palm, to feel like you can safely cross the street, and not have the back up and speeding cars a day troopers leave everyday. I hope you will consider only allowing parking on the beach side of Palm.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

provostcj@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Nadine Deif

Address

3305 Hartnett Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

As much as your position is difficult, it is better to exert less power on the people of IOP and even the entire State, and make little changes than what is going on now with the constant changes and power grabs. Be effective leaders and return things to normal before you all went rogue. We DO NOT NEED any bans on anything- from chairs and coolers to parking. Please stop acting like you are obligated to solve Covid world issues. Please Take a break!!! -our Island was fine last summer- stop calling emergency meetings and making decisions that are worst for everyone else. Return to summer 2019 rules and regulations with extra security for beach patrol on weekends if that's the real reason y'all are still trying to figure out how to improve social distancing. GO Home - there's no emergency that you can fix unless you have a cure for Covid.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ndeif@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Dale Donnelly

Address

1408 Shell Gish Court, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Please do not eliminate free parking for us in Mount Pleasant.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

Daledonnelly726@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Katie Hoy

Address

2009 Azalee Ln, Summerville, South Carolina 29483

Comments for Council Meeting

This is ridiculous you want to cut off public access for a public beach. We travel to the beach three times a week during the summer and cannot get on the beach lately because you have pumped all of the people together in one spot instead of allowing people to space out like it was by allowing parking access. You sure do want our tax money to refurbish the beach after it is destroyed by all the hurricanes and you want us to support your local businesses; but we're not allowed to park and access the beach? Yet somehow you'll allow people from out of state to visit. How ironic. You are turning IOP into New England beaches where it isn't accessible to the people who live here and yes, I live here even if it's 40 minutes away.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

kwhoy2007@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mindy Goldman

Address

7600 palmetto Dr #A305, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I am totally against any parking ban on Palm Blvd and in the neighborhood on the southern end of IOP. Living on IOP means accepting that you share the public beaches with the public. It also means accepting the relative inconvenience of heavier traffic 3 months of the year so that others may share in enjoying the beauty of the island. Using the excuse that a parking ban will curb Covid 19 is a joke and an insult to the intelligence of all citizens.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

mwg594@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Ms. Sophia Nilsen

Address

650 Enterprise Blvd., Charleston, South Carolina 29492

Comments for Council Meeting

The recent modifications to the parking for Isle Of Palms beach are unsafe and unfair. Please consider reversing the parking decisions. Bottlenecks of people that won't be able to socially distance are created by restricting parking access. If parking is ample and spread over more space, then more beach access points will be utilized and this will prevent clusters of people that could spread COVID to one another. Enjoying the beach is perfectly safe as long as people are socially distancing from others not in the same household, and restricting access to the beach is only driving those beach goers in closer proximity to one another.

This is an unfair policy that restricts beach access to other citizens in Charleston. I am an RN that has cared for local COVID patients since the spring and this year has been incredibly stressful. I used to enjoy walking along the beach and swimming far away from others and it was a tremendous relief of stress, but now I feel it is unsafe for me to visit the beach anymore due to the parking changes. You are robbing people of the simple joy of visiting the beach. These changes feel like a slap in the face after working so hard to care for our community.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

sophia.nf.nilsen@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Ms Kim McCracken

Address

1225 Blakeway Street, 908, Daniel Island, South Carolina 29492

Comments for Council Meeting

Give the beaches back to the people! Do not charge for parking and do not infringe on access by prohibiting parking. The IOP beaches are maintained with taxpayer dollars and should be accessible by all and not by having to pay parking. There are many previous court cases that were not in the favor of town councils or residents trying to block access to public beaches. Many of your own residents are against the parking restrictions.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

kim_mcc1@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Areta Zeigler

Address

1976 N sSmokerise Way, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I would like the parking for non residents to be fully reinstated. Our county taxes go to Isle of Palms and Sullivan's Island. Safe public parking should be provided to access all areas of the public beach. The parking area for the county park is now congested and provides a greater chance to spread covid19. Please rethink your decrease in street parking by reopening all parking to public.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

sctrainman@verizon.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Jenny L Smith

Address

705 perching Ct, Mt pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Please issue a parking pass to enjoy the beach .

I'm 73 years old and in the many years I've lived in Mt Pleasant I've always been respectful and followed rules .

When we lived on Sullivan's Island I would let folks park in our driveway. Never unorderedly . Miss not going to beach with my daughter for quality time . Thank u

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

smijen@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Frances Williams

Address

1324 Basildon Rd, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

To all council members,

I am not sure why all the parking restrictions got voted in but it sure has nothing to do with the Covid virus. You are limiting parking so there are less people at our six mile beach. With only the few parking areas that are allowed everyone congregates in one area of the beach. Some people are inconvenienced and take a walk down to more of an open space but elderly, handicap and families with small children carrying coolers and chairs won't take the walk. This in fact leaves them no choice but to sit by the pier along with so many others. NO SOCIAL DISTANCING at all. How is that helping anyone with not catching this virus? The beach should be an inviting place for everyone to share. We are all so fortunate to have it now more than ever. It's a place people come and forget their worries even for just a short while. It's everyone's happy place! Please do the right thing and reconsider this awful parking ban PLEASE. Bring our southern hospitality back to all of us.

Thank you for your consideration!

I wish you all well,

Frances Williams

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

merlot108@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Marianne Andrews

Address

1321 Osmond Rd, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Give us back access to OUR beach. The county (my taxes) provide funds for the islands. Stop trying to keep this access for yourself or only for profit (by paid parking and private vacation rentals). How do you expect us to support your local businesses, when you will not allow us access to the beach throughout the island in a way that would allow for maintaining social distancing? Instead, you have attempted to corral everyone to front beach to further the spread of COVID-19. This policy makes no sense and can only be motivated by selfishness to keep the island for residents only and by greed, since you are still allowing vacationers from all over to rent your private beach homes.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

rhodesmm@hotmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Dr Paul H Comitz

Address

2913 Leatherleaf Court, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Members of this council own and operate real estate businesses on the Isle of Palms. These members are attempting to manipulate beach access laws such that they directly benefit their business interests. This is a clear conflict of interest. The members that own real estate businesses should resign the IOP City Council. When the COVID pandemic is resolved beach access should remain free and open, with parking as historically defined. Failure to do so will likely result in a legal challenge.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

pcomitz@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Kelly van Vliet

Address

2831 Tradewind Drive, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Good evening. I will make this short. I think we can all agree that living on the coast of SC is a blessing. I have lived in Mt Pleasant since 1998 and have enjoyed countless days on the beach whether it be taking the dogs for a walk in the morning, enjoying the beach and sand during the day or just hanging out in the evening. You, the council members have taken this away without true and valid reasoning. Your reasoning of the virus was found untrue even during your initial meeting. How can you possibly justify crowding people on one section of IOP is better than spreading people out on the beach? Who makes you "the almighty" who can take away so many residents rights to parking throughout IOP. You claim "it's only 30 days". Well 30 days means a lot when you do it in the heat of the summer, during some folks last days before heading to college, and in our case, when my son, who will be deploying to the Middle East with the 75th regiment and has 1 week to spend with us. Thanks . Thanks for choosing to take away this precious time because of the hidden agendas to selfishly make a private island for yourselves. This is a sad time to live in the low country and I hope you know how much each of you have contributed to so much sadness and discontent for no valid reasons. You are supposed to be listening to and representing your community. Instead this is what you will be remembered for.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

dutchman227@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Ellen B Reed

Address

2609 alderly, Mount pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I have been going surfing very early @ iop 31/35 prior going to work to manage stress for years!!!! No more parking.. can't surf... I was told I have to park at the meters and walk ... is there any parking exception for surfers???

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ellenreedemll@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Megan Thornton

Address

1388 Founders Way, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

I ask the members to please reconsider charging for parking at the beach. I work at a local school and going to the beach is one of the only things my students that don't have a lot of money can do for free here, especially during COVID. Even a couple dollars is enough to have parents tell their children they cannot go. It breaks my heart that a community that is usually welcoming and all inclusive is making the community so separated and unhappy, please reconsider.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

meganthornton08@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Cindy Dawson

Address

1252 Island Club Drive, Charleston, South Carolina 29492

Comments for Council Meeting

I grew up in My. Pleasant and my family enjoyed visiting IOP. I took my children to visit as they grew up. I am now 65 years old and am restricted from visiting. I was a polite visitor who even picked up other folks trash if I saw it. I knew visiting the island was a privilege and was so thankful to have this beautiful resource. Now I can't find a parking place and am not allowed to visit. Please don't take your beautiful island away from me by reducing parking and access. Please consider those of us who grew up here and have always been respectful. Thank you!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

cindydawson60@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

David Shipp

Address

499 Antebellum Lane, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Council members, I love going to the beach as I am sure you all enjoy going as well. My favorite place to go is 40th to get away from the crowds. Connecting with nature, admiring the beauty, swimming, walking and relaxing are my favorite things to do there. I would like you to consider how eliminating parking on Palm Boulevard would make it impossible for Mount Pleasant residents like me to continue to safely access the beach. Thank you

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

davidshippii@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Denise Newman Sexton

Address

4416 wando farms road, Awendaw, South Carolina 29429

Comments for Council Meeting

I spent my childhood on Sullivan's island, brought my children to the beach and now my grand children. It's one of the beautiful Pleasures of living in the lowcountry to be able to enjoy the beach.

I am sad to see the further restrictions of public parking that has taken place. I understand that we are under strange times and the growth in people moving to the lowcountry has gotten out of control. To only allow parking in a condensed area does not create social distancing.

The summer is a time when we can enjoy exercising on the beach and teaching our grands how to surf, walk our dogs, and enjoy the therapeutic relaxation that the ocean offers.

It is shameful at this difficult financial time with the virus to put another strain on people, families to pay for parking to come do the one thing that could make them feel less stressed..

I have seen numerous stories of the hardship people would incur by trying to access the beach with the current restrictions..

I would hope the mayor and council would reconsider their restrictions on public parking and take in consideration that family that has an autistic child, who seeks therapy in coming to beach, or the front line essential nurse , who wants to take a walk on the beach to relieve the tremendous stress they incur daily and just the locals who do love their childhood beach and leave it a better place than when they arrive by removing all the trash/ debris left by short term renters- the out of town renters truly do not have an invested interest in the beach.

I personally have been involved many beach sweep cleanups with a surf group. If the mayor and council would consider a less restrictive parking resolution and be open to suggestions from the locals who live here year round - I am sure they could come up with a better solution,,, growing up on Sullivan's island during my childhood there was no IOP connector bridge and it seemed like both islands worked together to allow for the public to enjoy the ocean because it's not a gated beach it is public and should be allowed to be shared by the public / locals.

Thank you

Denise

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

d_sexton1@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Ms. Emily Tipaldo

Address

1271 Hogans Aly, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear IOP Town Council,

The Beachfront Management Act of 1988 established the well-defined lead role of the state in developing a comprehensive statewide beach management program. Furthermore, the Act includes this key legislative finding:

"the importance of the beach and dune system in protecting life and property from storms, providing significant economic revenue through tourism, providing habitat for important plants and animals, and providing a healthy environment for recreation and improved quality of life of all citizens." See:

<https://scdhec.gov/environment/your-water-coast/ocean-coastal-management/beach-management/beachfront-management>.

As a resident of Mount Pleasant (and therefore resident and taxpayer of Charleston County and the state of South Carolina), I urge you to restore parking access that enables a healthy environment for recreation and improved quality of life for all citizens, as well as guests.

It sickens me to think that some might dare try to use the coronavirus as a means to selfishly limit access to public beaches, when it is a known fact based on official comments from the Isle of Palms Chief of Police, that social distancing has not been an issue on the beach.

People within our community are stressed to their limits. Parents are overworked with no time off and no escape. Healthcare workers and first responders are putting themselves in disproportionate danger on a daily basis. People are waiting for normalcy to return, without any indication when that might come. The beach offers sanctuary for so many, and the inability to easily park and access the beach safely -- without overcrowding and knowing that your very own tax dollars have gone to maintaining that beach (on-going), equates to additional anger.

Please consider your actions carefully; the IOP beach is paid for and cared for by so many beyond the immediate IOP residents and property owners.

Thank you.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
etipaldo@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Cindy Dunneiks

Address

1294 Hogans Aly, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Council Members:

Your neighbors in Mount Pleasant respectfully ask you to reconsider your parking ban implemented under the guise of limiting Covid spread. Your current restrictions have quite the opposite effect. By forcing visitors to park in the limited amounts of paid parking (whether that be the city or county park lots), you have instead exacerbated the problem. You have made it virtually impossible for families with small children to safely enjoy a day at the beach since we can't just spread out far from where we are able to park since we are also toting along kids and beach necessities that families need with small kids.

You have taken the joy of summer away from my little ones, all while allowing out of state travelers access to your beaches. This is not only a slap in the face of your neighboring communities for limiting our beach access, but is also allowing those out of state visitors to potentially keep contributing to our rising Covid cases and spreading it when they come over the bridge into Mt Pleasant to dine or partake in other recreational activities.

I hope you will reconsider.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

crwcpa1@msn.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Claudia A Colven

Address

2041 Laurel Springs Lane, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Respectfully I have to say that this council is adding to the hatred and division that is happening in this country. At a time when we should be supporting one another we are pulling each other down, pitting neighbor against neighbor. I so appreciate all of the IOP "residents" who do not support what you are trying to do to limit beach access to everyone who so desperately needs a respite from these unbelievable times we are living. If you dig deep into your souls you know this is NOT about Covid. The numbers in Charleston County have been dropping and I believe they will continue to drop as summer tourists return to their own states. I have never seen so many out of state license plates as I have this summer. We have a couple retail stores in Mount Pleasant and every other customer who comes in is from out of town! This beach community we live in is no different than any other beach community in the world — summer months are unbearably busy but then most people go away and it becomes peaceful again. I grew up in beach communities (even in Italy) and when you move to one you just accept that summer can be a little challenging but you learn to adjust and plan accordingly. You should be honored that so many people want to enjoy "your" beach community but you cannot make it difficult, or impossible, for the residents of Charleston County to enjoy what gives us peace of mind in this not so peaceful time. If you google ocean/natural resource, the definition is "one of EARTH's most valuable natural resources" — is does not say IOP's natural resource!!!

Thank you for your time and I pray you all have a heart and let us all enjoy what Mother Earth has given us!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

claudiacolven@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Justine Pottiger

Address

2000 Waverly Place, H1, North Charleston, South Carolina 29418

Comments for Council Meeting

Please open back up street parking. I come to the isle of palms beach 2-3 times a week! And because there is no street parking for people to be spread out on the island, the county park area has become so congested it's impossible to social distance! Also the parking is mislabeled as \$2 an hour when in reality you are charged \$2.50 an hour!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

mjpottiger@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Janice Georgallas Janice Georgallas

Address

155 Wingo Way, Unit 431, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

I am appalled and infuriated that IOP has decided to eliminate most parking for non residents. What's worse is to use the guise of Covid which clearly is absurd since you've now forced people into a small area where they are on top of each other. I solely moved here from NJ to be close to the beach as I love the ocean. I also suffer from lupus and yet I refuse to allow this council to take the beach away from me. Yesterday, I parked in the municipal lot and had to drag my chairs and bag while my body was in pain. As I entered the beach area, I was appalled at the amount of people on top of each other. This is so dangerous and you all should be responsible for spreading covid to people when they could be spread out along 6 miles of beach. I have been going to the beach in IOP for weeks before your restrictions were put into place and there was plenty of social distancing if you didn't go to the municipal area beach. We pay our taxes and support the IOP businesses. How dare you take this away from all of us. I will fight to retain a lawyer with the rest of us unhappy and angry local residence to help change this ABSURD and clearly selfish decision.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

jgeorgallas@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Susan Heffron

Address

1252 Dearsley court, Mount pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Please make beach access a priority for all Charleston county tax payers!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

susanbheffron@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Brian Faust

Address

Colonel Vanderhorst Circle, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Complete overreach has been going on for to long... now you have finally gone too far and stepped in your own mess. Best of luck trying to save face. You all (with the exception of 2) have lost your connection to the very people you serve. Best of luck, your going to need all of it you can get. Spoiled rotten with power.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

bffaust21@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Nikki Roberts

Address

3042 Hollow Ct, North Charleston, South Carolina 29406

Comments for Council Meeting

One of my twins favorite things to do is have a day at the beach. They're 3 and full of life. Going to the beach is one cheap ways that I can entertain my kids during this terrible pandemic and also a reason I chose to raise my family in Charleston county. They haven't been able to play with their friends for months and now one of the places they love is also taken away. City council knows this is wrong and the fact that so many IOP residents are opposed to this should speak volumes. Open parking back up and listen to what the people want. This isn't about Covid. This is about greed, plain and simple. Everyone that voted in favor of this should be ashamed of themselves.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

jamie.n.roberts@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Judy Hammett

Address

686 Boat Landing Aly, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

I am a lifetime resident of Charleston and have been going to the IOP my entire life. The beach is a state treasure that we cannot lose. In 2017 the IOP wrote a commitment to maintain the public beaches. Please do not take out public beach away. The latest change to the parking has demonstrated that some council members do not want a public beach. Please do not let them ruin our beaches. Keep the parking free and plentiful.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

hammettmj@bellsouth.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Ms Katherine C Gaffos

Address

1552 Ben Sawyer Blvd., Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Please open up the parking again so that families with children can enjoy our beaches again. It is one of the safest and healthiest activities we can enjoy while navigating this pandemic. It belongs to us all and you have a moral and legal obligation to ensure we have adequate access. Issue a social distancing mandate and give tickets to those not adhering. We all want what is best for both islands as well as Mount Pleasant and all that visit. I think there are many who would help disperse crowds that jeopardize things for the rest of us! Thank you for whatever help you can provide! Kathy Gaffos

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

kcgaffos@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Kelly Miller

Address

3241 morningdale dr, Mount pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Parking restrictions should be lifted immediately! Having these in place makes it more congested in other areas instead of people being able to spread out. The beach is one of the few places people are able to go and enjoy some beauty, peace, and relaxation and have plenty of room to spread out. This is something everyone should be able to enjoy! I'm a mount pleasant native and I think this is the most ridiculous thing I've ever seen. Please lift these restrictions!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

deanna456@hotmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Brian Olofsson

Address

1845 S. James Gregarie Rd., Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

As a neighbor and a taxpayer in Mt. Pleasant, I am very concerned with how all of the iop local neighbors are being treated. Allowing short term rentals to go on without restriction, where many of these visitors are from covid hotspots, and restricting parking for local beach goers appears counter to the reason you give for this decision. While I have been to yhe beach and many others, including the IOP police - social distancing has not been a problem. Council's comments on record for the desire to make some of these parking restrictions permanent and a council member declaring his desire to keep undesirable day trippers away further adds distrust in council's decision regarding parking within the Charleston community. If people do not obey social distancing, driving, parking, or any other laws or ordinances, they should be ticketed, but restricting access is not the answer. I am sure that you all are aware of the public perception of the surrounding communities and a large number of iop residents. I ask that IOP town council please reconsider these restrictions both temporary and the permanent rstrictions that have been discussed and welcome your neighbors. Thank you!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

olofsson.brian@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Kyle James Jackson

Address

607 Portico Park, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Please remove current parking restrictions. I am in favor of rules and enforcement, and respect that, but please do not take away parking. I know there are lots of argument from both sides but you eventually need to check your moral compass. What's happening is wrong.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

kylejacksonusa@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Rebecca Lyon

Address

2516 Deer Walk Way, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I think all parking, including Palm Blvd, should be available for non-residents. I live in Mt Pleasant, pay taxes, and do not believe the recent lack of parking, and funneling everyone to one parking area is beneficial to the reduction of COVID spread. We have a right to park for free, spread out and enjoy the beaches.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

lyonrebecca@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Amy M Ethridge

Address

1704 Babington Way, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Council -

I respectfully request that these comments be considered in response to the recent restrictions enacted by the Isle of Palms Town Council. The recent parking restrictions have unfairly limited access to our public beaches and these unfounded and misguided actions need to be reversed.

On Saturday, I headed out to enjoy a nice day of surfing and relaxing on the beach at the Isle of Palms. I was shocked, dismayed and saddened to discover that parking had not been merely reduced but in fact eliminated. There was not ONE SINGLE NON-RESIDENT parking spot to be found from Palm Blvd north to Wild Dunes. NOT ONE. Let that sink in for a moment. The Isle of Palms is a public beach with public access paths that the public cannot actually use to get to the beach. It became quite evident that this was not about limiting the number of people to reduce the spread of disease. This was a calculated plan to restrict the access of non-residents to our public beaches. This is simply wrong and must be changed.

The Isle of Palms is a public beach and belongs to all citizens of SC. The residents of the Isle of Palms are not owners but simply the stewards of our beautiful beaches who have been entrusted to preserve and protect them for all. Our beaches are God-given resources created for the enjoyment of everyone and should never be "owned" or restricted to the enjoyment of an elite few who are blessed to call them home. I hope that instead of attempting to limit the access of others that you will choose instead to use your position of power to be good stewards of these resources and manage public access in a way that we all deserve.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
amy-ethridge@att.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

denise kish

Address

1616 Rivertowne Country Club Drive, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

please reconsider your parking limits its unfair to all of us paying taxes to you and your keeping us from the enjoying free beach access. your renters are the reason we are in this situation you allowed them to come in now we are all suffering from your mistake i miss my sunday afternoon - then my stop at your restaurants or sullivan's seafood - please understand what YOU did and remove the parking restrictions

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

kishda2@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Andrea McCollam

Address

1853 Palmetto Isle Dr, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I live in Mt Pleasant and usually go to the beach once a week on a weekday. This year I've been about 4 times since all the Covid business is going on. I went to station 6 July 16th. I felt lucky to find parking easy enough. Beach had very few people. Easily 12 feet radius around us at all times. Last week On a Tuesday at 4:00 and absolutely no parking between 3rd-9th Street. It was just aggravating and heartbreaking at the same time. Why can't I go to the beach on weekday at an off time like 4:00. They is no problems with crowds down on that end. I am quite certain your parking rules are forcing everyone to be jammed in the same area. It truly makes no sense. Please reconsider your current parking rules!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

mjmccollam@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Tanya Behrens

Address

1146 S Shadow Drive, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

We are small business owners in Mt Pleasant and have surfed IOP for almost 20 years now. It is so frustrating that we are no longer able to park at 7-9 am around 30th to catch some waves before going to work all day. A resident has been kind enough to let us park at her house and we can walk with surfboards 5 blocks to surf, but it is such an inconvenience and seems so hostile to the surf community. So unwelcoming and so unfriendly to locals. We personally know several people who have become sick with Covid from hanging out at the Dingy Bar, but bars are open and surf is off limits where social distance is working best. We hope you will reconsider letting locals Park again to surf IOP. Jason's & Tanya Behrens Owners of Mellow Mood in Mt Pleasant and downtown Charleston

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

behrens.tanya@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Jane Kleckley Schuler

Address

557 Hidden Blvd, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

As a Mt P and Charleston County resident, it is unfortunate that access to a public beach has basically been denied. Owning property in Wild Dunes, gives me access, however Charleston County citizens pay taxes for roads and facilities, SC citizens pay taxes for beach renourishment through FEMA. Furthermore, if the goal was social distancing, that has been exacerbated as now crowds at the "pay to park" areas are packed in and the beach areas reflect this. IOP petitioned DHEC and the state to take over the Beach Management Plan for The island and was granted this privilege. Perhaps we, the Public, should petition DHEC and the state as to the abuse of this "Achievement."

See section 1.3 billeted lines 6 and 7 of agreement and section 1.4 As well as 2.5 May 9, 2017

Thank you and here's hoping reasonable minds rule your decision making on Tuesday.

<https://www.scdhec.gov/sites/default/files/docs/HomeAndEnvironment/Docs/LCBMP.pdf>

City has pursued this vision through a number of actions:

1.3

instituting regulations and policies for planning, zoning, development, environmental protection, and public safety

developing and maintaining an excellent public beach access system

prohibiting hard erosion control structures on the beach

monitoring beach and dune conditions

acting as permit applicant and providing funds for beach nourishment and shoal management projects

2.5 Existing Public Access and Map

Public beach access along Isle of Palms is excellent. There are 56 public access points along approximately 4.5 miles of shoreline between Breach Inlet and 57th Ave (average spacing between public access points is approximately 400 ft). The three easternmost of the 56 access points (between 54th Ave. and 57th Ave.) are actually owned and maintained by the Wild Dunes Community Association, but have no use restrictions and are available to the general public as well.

East of 57th Ave., beach access is available via 14 community access points for residents and guests of Wild Dunes (average spacing between community access points is approximately 875 ft, or 1/6 mi).

Public beach access and parking information is posted on the City's web site <http://www.iop.net/beach-access-parking>, and is tabulated in this LCBMP (this section and Appendix). Public beach access locations also are shown on the SC Beach Guide <http://gis.dhec.sc.gov/beachaccess/> and Figure 6, taken from the SC Beach Guide.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

schuler.janek@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Patrick J McLoughlin

Address

3128 Sonja Way, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Honorable Council Members,

On the agenda is the parking situation for IOP. It is totally unfair to reduce the allotted parking on IOP. I understand it is an attempt of the council to harness the COVID 19 pandemic but others in the low country see another underlying element as you have experienced in the media and from the citizens. I suggest you must be fair and meet the citizens halfway. Nothing gets accomplished when citizens are shunned. It leads to a disaster in the long run. I implore you to be open and truthful to the low country and come to an amicable decision.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

pjm2532@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Nancy Mittelstadt

Address

2759 Gaston Gate, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

As a 37 year resident of MP, I have social distanced at the beach every single year. It was easy to do until IOP council banned parking on Palm Blvd under the guise of the spread of COVID19. Now all day-trippers are funneled into one small area of parking and beach access. This effectively has removed the ability to social distance and greatly increased the possible spread of COVID19. Please consider removing the real threat of COVID19 by banning rentals to large out of state groups and enforce the mask mandate in the business/restaurant districts. Do the right thing, instead of seemingly attempting to privatize a public beach, line the pockets of realtors, and land grab right-of-way of public roads. Local communities will take every available legal avenue to regain their right to their public beaches.

Thank you.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

mittel@bellsouth.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Craig Reimann

Address

2412 Bergeron Way, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Privatizing what once was public, is brought forth by greed and personal agendas. The fact that the council wants to misdirect the public in to thinking that they are concerned about other's safety, when in reality, these new restrictions make the beaches a more dangerous place to visit. It concentrates the public to a more confined area of the beach and social distancing is less likely or even more so, impossible. Free the beach! Access for all, not just some.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

craig_reimann@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Ms. Abbey Nicole Rich

Address

1130 landsdowne dr, Charleston, South Carolina 29412

Comments for Council Meeting

I can't believe that paid parking along palm Blvd is even being discussed. This makes the beach private without actually making it private. Everyone is looking at IOP right now to see if they make the right decisions for locals. Be for your people. There is plenty of money for your town. Do you really need bigger tasers and even more tricked out golf carts? Please consider people who live off the island. If you do plan on making us pay for parking then what is your plan for taxes? I would like to see little to none of mount pleasant taxes taken out for the beaches since you will be making all of this extra money.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

abbeynrich@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Dyana Bangsund

Address

1650 Ellsworth Street, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Council Members,

Please consider opening up some parking . I am 55, have an autoimmune disorder. I also suffer from depression and anxiety and the beach is such a healing place for me. I have lost my job and I don't have extra money to pay for parking. I understand you have parking issues and I am asking that you consider letting the community members possibly get a pass of some sort. I know this is a complicated issue.

Thank you for reading this and have a nice day.

Dyana

Dyana_b@yahoo.com

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

dyana_b@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Marianne Weaver

Address

3998 Maidstone Dr., Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Reconsider the limited parking and increasing rates for S.C. citizens. It has NOTHING to do with Covid concerns or you would not allow rentals. This is a public beach.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

mkw1958@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Debra Merwin

Address

3411 Toomer Kiln Circle, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I want to start off my saying I truly understand the seriousness of COVID-19. I am at high risk due to a medical condition so social distance is a must for me .

I usually go to the beach four to five times at week to relax and enjoy time with my family . With the new parking restrictions in place I can no longer enjoy the beach . The restrictions you have put into place have created such unnecessary stress for non IOP residents .

Please re-evaluate the parking restrictions. There must be a better way . As council members each of you should go to the public beach parking area during peak hours with your families . Get feedback from your family and be honest with yourself about your experience.

I would greatly appreciate hearing from each of you about your relaxing day at beach while trying to social distancing in a crowded area. It's important for each of you to experience the frustration non IOP residents are experiencing. I don't think you can truly understand the frustration of being forced to sit in an area that is overly crowded when 3/4 of the beach is empty because you want to keep private for residents of IOP and season renters.

Please Please Please Make the right decision after spend time on the crowded beach area.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

dmerwin2@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

James Wager

Address

1220 Iron Bridge Dr, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please do not further the divide in the Charleston community. The topic of elimination of free parking has caused stress and hatred between island residents and Charleston Co residents, and it will get worse if you make Palm permanently restricted to paid parking. Do the right thing. Show the community that island residents aren't elitist and welcome visitors. Keep parking free on Palm!

Best Regards,
James W

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

james.wager@us.bosch.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Rick Shanley

Address

3405 Palm Blvd., Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29441

Comments for Council Meeting

I think the parking regulations worked this weekend. Those that wanted to go to the beach found a way (Uber etc.). The beach was far from empty so all found a way that wanted to. As an aside the Blvd. is clean of trash from those that were not able to park so there is a benefit besides having plenty of room for first responders.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

rick.wtb@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Sandy D Ferencz

Address

4 Seahorse Ct, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I am in hopes that by now you have received overwhelming support for your action(8-1) to limit parking on the Island thus controlling the crowds. This action helps protect us (full time residents), Public Safety personnel and visitors alike. The attempt of Mt Pleasant folks to demonstrate their disdain for your actions resulted in less than .0000035% participation; again supporting your actions to be in the best interest of all. Though not on his agenda, I do hope that you will extend these parking restrictions until a vaccine is available and/or we can all be relatively certain that the spread is stopped.

As per this agenda, I could not find any report regarding the Marina Forum. I assume it will be added to the packet by this afternoon. It has been so long since that event happened I will try to review all my notes to try and be prepared for your discussion, but the data points,(devoid of manipulation by one tenant) are really needed to do so.

Thank you for all you do for the residents of this island and please know we do appreciate your hard work and perseverance in this trying pandemic.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ferenczsa@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Ms. Joyce D. Morris

Address

12 Morgan Place Drive, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

To: Mayor Carroll and all other Council Members: Please, please, please, continue to keep us, the residents of the island, safe when you next meet in emergency session. Do not be intimidated by the bullies from off who have decided our neighborhoods should be available for their parking and rude behavior. We are not saying they cannot use the beach but they need to park in the approved parking LOTS. The sheer volume of beachgoers needs to be controlled, especially in this pandemic, so that we don't have dangerous parking and traffic chaos. How dare a small group of selfish and irresponsible people (having a tantrum) think they should make the rules on an island where they do not live? Respectfully, Joyce Morris, 12 Morgan Pl. Dr. 843 886 0272 or joyatiop@bellsouth.net

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

joyatiop@bellsouth.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Vincent DiGangi

Address

4 42nd Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I would like to thank the Mayor and City Council for making the appropriate decisions about parking and controlling access to our city during this unprecedented time. I know these are difficult decisions, but they address the health and well being of not just our residents, but all residents and visitors to this area.

In response to the parking discussions on the agenda, I would ask that you also look to make changes to some of the areas designated as resident parking only. As a resident who lives on one of the busiest beach accesses on the island, the beach side of 42nd Avenue, that you also consider, parking on one side of the street, 24/7 resident parking only, and other methods to diminish traffic flow on this small section of street. By reducing the parking on Palm Boulevard it drives people looking for spaces to resident areas to look for parking. The current situation creates an exorbitant amount of traffic in this small residential area;

- with the beach access,
- access to the Sea Oats subdivision,
- beach equipment drop off for companies and Palm boulevard parkers,
- as well as non-residents looking for parking loop holes (hidden spaces).

Add to this the possibility of an ADA compliant boardwalk that will create another attraction to this already busy section of street and we have created another public safety issue.

Please consider my comments and concerns as you move forward with other changes.

Vincent DiGangi

4 42nd Avenue

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

vdigangi@msn.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Thornton C White

Address

7 45th Ave, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I support open parking along Palm Blvd. Perhaps a nice compromise is to limit parking to one side of Palm Blvd. But cramming everyone into front beach is not a good way to control COVID 19 outbreak.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

thorntonwhite@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Colin McNaught

Address

2902 Palm Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Good evening Councillors ,

I totally object to the proposal for kiosk parking at the wreck center , we already provide sufficient public parking throughout the island . We have too many weekend visitors now which are a burden on our police , fire department and Ems . Palm Blvd is now much safer to exit your driveway and drive on because we have no parking on either side , I hope we keep this in effect and I suggest the speed limit be reduced to 30 mph .

thank you Councillors.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

jeancolin2@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mary Brigid Allen

Address

28, 29th avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please do not make 27, 28 and 29th avenue parking for day trippers, hotel guests from surrounding towns and beachgoersthis creates a "mini county park" with no rest room facilities and no

garbage receptacles. It creates excessive crowding

at these street access areas on the beach and when we purchased our property, over 35 years ago, we purchased our home in a quiet residential area. This is what we expected and enjoyed these past years.. To have city council cave in to other towns and disrupt our property values and rights is unbelievable.

Children and adults will not be able to ride bikes or walk freely down our streets with the amount of traffic. Spend a day here in our neighborhoods before you cast your vote.

Why can't our city council stand up for our residents and stop giving in to every little demand from those who live outside of our island. I didn't elect those that lobby for other towns.

Stop saying to the residents that we have to accommodate everyone and everybody....from an overpopulated area.

Instead, have Mt Pleasant take some initiative and rent or buy parking spaces in their town and provide transportation to both Sullivans and the IOP.

It is their problem, please stop trying to make this an IOP residents problem.

Vehicles searching for a free space on the island and those that try to jam their car between a palm tree and a fire hydrant are not patrons of our downtown area after hunting down free parking for the day.

Please give the most weight to residents living in this area and their opinions instead of other residents that want to move the parking to some other area away from their Property or use a referendum for this critical vote. There are a lot of opinions on social media that are meaningless and are mostly comments from people who force their opinion on others. I've seen too much bullying on sites that once had a good cause. These media sites do not speak for the homeowners and taxpayers to develop policy on this Island.

Isle of Palms is a beautiful place to live...why is this city council lobbying for other towns? Sullivans Island made decisions, stuck to them and they don't keep revisiting these decisions. Can we follow that plan. please.

No one is blocking the beach, just have non residents take some responsibility, get up earlier, and visit our county park and city lots to park.

Are our taxes supporting all the garbage pickup, and restroom facilities you will have to provide, thus making our rec center the next casualty that will have to be forced open to accommodate paid parking to use restroom facilities etc... this is just a very very bad idea.

Again, please stop revisiting your decisions on city council....to change hours for parking, (if proposed) or

move parking into the neighborhoods of 27, 28 and 29th Avenues.

Council members...please remember what platform you ran on to get elected...it was a plan to support our residents not hotel guests and residents of neighboring towns. Mt pleasant has uncontrolled growth and their residents should be addressing that issue which affects our situation of parking... This last decision to eliminate parking was a wonderful gift back to the residents...and many wrote to council thanking them. Please keep this plan and leave 27, 28 and 29th streets and rec center parking free of day trippers for reasons I wrote about above.

Please make it clear to the residents those members of city council that are voting against our residents to accommodate a neighboring town.

Parking should have been addressed years ago...it may be painful for some, but this "pain" should not be at the expense of our resident taxpayers.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
allenb@musc.edu

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Damon Meek

Address

2515 Cheswick Ln, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I am writing about the recent parking changes made on the island. If the restrictions were made with Covid in mind, they are extremely counter-productive. You have forced people into a smaller area, preventing social distancing. Your own police chief stated that social distancing was being adhered to on the beach.

If the restrictions were made to start a long-term process for minimizing and/or monetizing public parking, they were made hastily and without proper review and input. People have an expectation and a right to utilize the public beaches all throughout the country, and IOP is not an exception. Local Charleston-area residents and visitors will not tolerate a selfish decision by the IOP leadership to prevent access to the island, which you have veiled in parking restrictions. You are welcoming out of town renters from all over the world, but locking out your own tax-paying constituents.

If you are making this change due to safety concerns, what statistics support the decision? It is your responsibility to weigh facts when making decisions, and to weigh them carefully and without bias. You have shown no indication of due process, have no data to support the new restrictions, and have driven a mob of people into a smaller restricted area during a pandemic. As elected officials, you should be ashamed.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

damon_meek@hotmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Cameron S Chamberlain

Address

2137 Sandy Point Lane, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

My husband grew up in Wild Dunes and we have lived in Mt Pleasant for almost 30 years. We love coming to the beach- it has been our activity as our kids have grown up. I have been coming to the beach almost daily for the last couple of months. And I have never seen anyone violating social distancing recommendations. Even at Front Beach on a Sunday! This new parking rule is devastating for our family and for our community. It certainly isn't the IOP my husband remembers nor the one I have loved all of these years!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

cam.chamberlain@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Ginger Sutton

Address

4898 Sound View Drive, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

IOP needs to pressure Sullivan's Island to stop with the keep moving rule--then if you want to charge for parking on Palm blvd fine (the rest of us will advocate for lower taxes). Hiding behind Covid isn't working, neither is your idea of limiting parking and stacking beachgoers on top of one another. Spread people out on the beaches and make them accessible if you want to keep reaping the benefits of our taxes.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

me@gingersutton.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Debra Hamilton

Address

8 Ensign Court, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please do not turn one of the most wonderful things about living on Isle of Palms, the Rec center, into a tourist parking area. The rec center is what gives the people of our island, a sense of living in a community. We must not give away this valuable asset that the families who live here enjoy so much. This will create more traffic in an area where children are always walking and riding their bikes.

I realize that non residents want to come here and enjoy the beach. What about a shuttle service from Mt Pleasant that runs on a regular basis during the season?

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

dhamiltonIOP@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

PAUL HOPMEIER

Address

1839 Carolina Park Blvd, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I am resident of Charleston County and of course pay county tax. And a former IOP property owner. We moved permanently to Mt. Pleasant from Charlotte because we wanted to be closer to the beach. For years we enjoined morning and evening walks on the beach in IOP as well as the occasional lazy afternoon lounging on the beach. Our particular joy was that we could find plenty of beach to enjoy but not feel like being in a packed elevator. Now, that has all changed. Our only parking option is the county lot and it is scary when we have to manage our way through tons of people given the risks of contracting COVID-19. I am OK with IOP charging for parking if they can demonstrate that the summer beach going spike causes a deficit to the budget. I would think not owing to all the rental tax revenue that is gained in the summer. And, if this was a deficit issue then pay parking would have been implemented years ago. I am very interested to see the data that IOP has to show that there action has or will reduce the spread of COVID-19. And, if it does, then IOP should restrict tourism in favor of local tax payers.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

paulhopmeier@att.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Lisa M Johnson

Address

2096 Amenity Park Dr, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I urge you to reconsider the ban on parking on Palm Blvd as well as to scrap the idea of paid parking on Palm as well. We have lived here for over 25 years and it is distressing to see access to the IOP beach denied to locals who do not live in IOP. Taking a walk ont the beach has become next to impossible. Crowding everyone into the Front Beach lot because of Covid did the exact opposite from the "social distance" stated goal while leaving stretches of the beach empty and for residents only. It is understandable that IOP is concerned about the craziness that people invoke on Palm Blvd during the summer - and they should be ticketed and towed - but seeing out of state people/renters enjoying our beaches while we the taxpayers are denied decent access is disgusting. It is also ridiculous to install paid parking on Palm - not only do we pay taxes to support the roads and beaches but now we need to pay \$5 to take a walk? Figure it out with locals in mind - not tourists and not IOP residents only.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

LISAJ.2029@ICLOUD.COM

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Lee Weatherly

Address

22 30th Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please don't turn the recreation center into a second paid beach parking lot. Concentrating parking in this residential area would lead to overcrowding in this contained residential area and negatively impact residents' ability to utilize the red center during the summer. If you are considering paid parking please either keep it in the business district or spread it out over the entirety of Palm Blvd. Thank you.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

leecweatherly@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Michael Elsner

Address

3708 Palm Blvd, Isle Of Palms, South Carolina 29451-2045

Comments for Council Meeting

I remain concerned about the parking situation on Palm Blvd. The number of vehicles parked on the road poses an unnecessary risk of accidents and impedes the flow of traffic so significantly that emergency vehicles can not safely pass in the event of an emergency. It also grossly impacts everyone's ability to travel on and off the island. It often takes an hour to get on or off the island during peak hours.

I support parking on one side of Palm Blvd. only and some additional parking off of Palm Blvd. This would greatly improve the flow of traffic and create a safer environment.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

melsner@motleyrice.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Andrew J. Vega

Address

104 Sparrow Dr, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

City Council, I am a property owner and full time resident of Isle of Palms along with my wife and two children. I request that the actions taken using Emergency Ordinance 2020-11, to reduce parking during the emergency meeting on 15 July 2020, be reversed. It has been made clear through Councilmembers' comments made during that meeting and afterwards publicly, that the parking changes had nothing to do with mitigating the spread of Covid-19. It was inappropriate of this council to take action on a item that was not appropriately placed on the agenda for public comment, and then use the current pandemic situation as a cover to make this change. While parking changes may be prudent due to the growth of population in the Lowcountry, this was not the way to go about making the change without thorough and thoughtful discussion.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

andrew.j.vega.1@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Michael D Bright

Address

3001 Waterway Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I feel like if the parking is eventually restored on Palm and the public lots are reopened, that should be sufficient for the day beachgoers.

Before the closure a few weeks ago the beaches were overcrowded and have to be hard to monitor by the police and beach patrol. I am not in favor of kiosk parking on 29th, 27th or Hartnett.

Thanks

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

mike.bright3@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Michelle Wells

Address

1048 Main Sail Ct, Awendaw, South Carolina 29429

Comments for Council Meeting

The parking issue is ridiculous. This isn't about covid because the current plan puts everyone in one small place. We pay taxes and should have unlimited use of our ublic beaches. Bring back parking on Palm boulevard!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

michellewells3@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Jon DiMaina

Address

300 Seaport Lane, Mount pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Went to the beach at 830pm last night and due to the parking restrictions, it funneled everyone to the area by the meters on pavilion. It was packed, impossible to social distance. So if this measure was supposed to help limit COVID spread, it's doing the exact opposite. I don't understand how this makes any sense to you all

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

jdimaina@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Myra Jones

Address

730 Dragoon Dr., Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Please take action to repeal Ordinance 2020-11 regarding restrictions on parking on State roads. This Ordinance is only doing harm. The restrictions have caused IOP businesses to suffer excessive economic loss due to the decrease in customers (less parking = less customers). The Ordinance has also made it almost impossible for beach-goers to spread out on the beach and, instead, more people are forced to concentrate in one area. If your focus is on reducing the spread of COVID-19, this Ordinance is hampering social distancing and enhancing the risk of spread.

The take-over of State roads is unwarranted, unreasonable and is a civil rights violation. By allowing residents to park on State roads, but denying access to others, you are guilty of discrimination, and are violating the Civil Rights afforded by the State Constitution and the United States Constitution.

Please also consider information from The Mayo Clinic:

"The COVID-19 virus is primarily spread from person to person through respiratory droplets released into the air when talking, coughing, or sneezing. When you're indoors, you're more likely to inhale these droplets from an infected person, especially if you're in close contact, because you're sharing more air than you do outdoors. Poor building ventilation can cause droplets to hang in the air for a longer period of time, adding to the potential for infection. When you're outside, fresh air is constantly moving, dispersing these droplets. So, you're less likely to breathe in enough of the respiratory droplets containing the virus that causes COVID-19 to become infected. Being outside offers other benefits, too. It offers an emotional boost and can help you feel less tense, stressed, angry or depressed."

Palm Boulevard, the beach and the Atlantic Ocean are not owned by IOP. The pandemic has been hard on all of us. Why make it worse? Please let all citizens have access to parking along the State road, and access to the Beach. We're all in this together, aren't we?

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

myraeasonjones@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

John Baden

Address

3102 Palm Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

I applaud your steps at trying to control the spread of Covid-19 by reducing parking on the Island. Over the last 5 years parking, and the ways people park alongside the road, has gotten out of hand. My question relates to use of the large right of way between the sidewalk and Palm Blvd. Why can't this space be utilized to provide safe parking that enables beach visitors access to the currently in place sidewalks and plenty of room to safely park and enable residents to get in and out of their private driveways.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

Jbaden@bellsouth.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Michelle S Brooks

Address

2239 Sandy Point Ln, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear IOP Council,

I am completely disheartened with the latest parking restrictions. You have managed to prevent locals from enjoying the beach.

I moved our family from GA 17 years ago when my husband was deployed to Iraq. Our kids have experienced growing up on the coast and the beach has always been our place to find peace. We always parked at 31st, and we would go to the beach as much as possible. The kids learned to surf at 31st. There's so many good memories and it's so depressing that your decisions are making it impossible for more good memories to be made.

Slowly you have been changing the parking rules to make more difficult for locals to come to the beach. I received a ticket a few years ago when I parked at the same exact spot I always did. All of a sudden, there were "golf cart parking only" signs up that I never noticed before. I got another ticket when I parked at 41st which was a spot I used to park and take walks. There was a sign I'd never seen before stating resident-only parking May ?- Sept. ?. Then the parking was changed to parallel only parking which eliminated even more parking.

We have always taken care of the beach. I even teach my students to care for our beaches. We are even members of VFW Post 3137 and try to spend time there with our VFW family at least once a week. It's upsetting that we have to search endlessly to park to go to the VFW and had to pay to park when we did find a spot.

With this being said, your decision to take away the beach from us has me completely depressed, to say the least. We can not enjoy what we have for the past 17 years. Wouldn't you be depressed if that has been taken from you? Especially now? Put yourself in others' shoes.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

surfiniop@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Stuart Schuck

Address

1124 Mariner Drive, Chatleston, South Carolina 29412

Comments for Council Meeting

To Jimmy Carroll and Town Council, I am writing as an Ocean Lover and father who raised a family on the other side of bridge who always felt like Isle of Palms was my community as well and was proud of the name of that Island. Honestly, now the name of that Island makes my stomach hurt! As a past business owner and Ocean athlete i have seen the leadership on this island destroy the vibe with the taking away of beach Access for years on the south end , marina and more. When will you stop this and look at the big picture of this community. Very sad to see what is going on. Very selfish of the leadership.

Please reconsider beach access for the community!!! We simply love the Ocean .

Sincerely, Stu Schuck

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

stu@beoceanfit.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Frances Elizabeth Wright

Address

4336 Savoy Street, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing to you to kindly ask that you not permanently eliminate anymore public parking spaces along Palm Boulevard or along any of the other streets on Isle of Palms. I realize that your first priority is the residents, but I'm asking you to consider your neighboring communities as well as we are really one big community that depends on each other. Your neighbors deserve to enjoy the public beaches just as much as the residents of IOP. My husband and I moved our family from Annapolis, Maryland five years ago to be closer to the beach. It has been our lifelong dream to live near the ocean. We're both avid surfers and the beach is our second home. It makes me so sad to see that the parking is being slowly taken away. Anyway, hopefully you will consider my point of view as a neighboring member of the community and there can be some type of amicable solution to this matter.

Thank you,

Francie Wright

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
fcobb@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Dr. Allyson J Thatcher

Address

1072, Rivershore Rd, CHARLESTON, South Carolina 29492

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Mayor and IOP Town Council Members,

I was fortunate today to have the day off from my very busy medical practice. My husband and I were very excited about coming to enjoy a few hours at the beach. I was terribly saddened to drive around the island and find no place to park except the county park. The beauty of the island was destroyed by rows and rows of "No parking" signs. As a medical professional, I am not interested in being herded into the country park when I could be socially distancing at any other beach location on the island. We have always gone to 51st street to enjoy the beach. We used to be allowed to park on 51st street near the beach but this of course was stopped and limited to residents only from May to September. Now we cannot park anywhere along the public beaches or on the public streets. We went to the city hall office to discuss our concerns and realized that we would be unable to discuss this as the offices would not accept people in the building to file complaints.

We have always loved this area since we move here 14 years ago and have enjoyed both IOP and Sullivan's Island. We have enjoyed the beaches and the many restaurants over our many years here. Our children have all moved back here with one working as a firefighter with the City of Charleston as well as a Charleston County medic and one teaching high school at Wando. My husband also works as a paramedic for Charleston County EMS. It is so sad when we cannot enjoy our beaches due to the ridiculous parking restrictions that have been put in place.

There is no medical reason to limit the parking to such a small area that all the visitors must be sitting right on top of each other at the county park and to use COVID-19 as your justification is not based on scientific knowledge.

Unfortunately, these decisions on your part seem very self-serving and not in the best interest of the citizens who live in the surrounding areas and contribute to your tax base. I understand that these restriction have been put in place for 30 days but that discussions have been made to make them permanent. There are a large number of citizens who will do whatever is necessary to stop this from happening. In the mean time I will not spend my hard earned money at your stores or restaurants and will spend my money in places that appreciate my business. Maybe if the local businesses lose revenue, they will be the voice that brings about change. Businesses are already struggling with the pandemic which is unfortunate in and of itself

It frustrates me that my husband and son are allowed to come to IOP to care for your sick and injured but are unable to find a place to park if they want to enjoy the beach.

Enjoy your summer. Wish we could enjoy ours on the beach.

Sincerely,

Allyson Thatcher, MD

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
allyson@allysonthatcher.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Peggy Ann W. Maughon

Address

7 Wills Way, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Thank you for passing the current parking restrictions. I realize that people that do not live here are unhappy with limited parking and having to pay to park, but I believe that your current plan is in the best interest of everyone, especially our children being able to go back to school. To be honest, I have never been to a beach area, except the low country, where parking was ever permitted in the residential areas. All parking is located in parking lots or at the hotel or motel you are staying at. Please do not allow any parking in any residential areas, Palm and Ocean included, and do not alter the current plan in any way. Thank you.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ann.maughon1@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Jen Baltgalvis

Address

9619 Roseberry St., Ladson, South Carolina 29456

Comments for Council Meeting

I am a local resident of the tri-county area. My family and I love the beach and go there often during the summer. As you know, the beach is a great place to go to relax and get fresh air and vitamin D, especially during these trying times. It is one of the only activities we can do and feel safe while maintaining social distance. Prior to the parking restrictions, we went to the beach multiple times per week and never had an issue with social distancing. People naturally stay apart on the beach. The fact that IOP passed these parking restrictions to help fight the spread of Covid 19 makes absolutely no sense. They are now forcing people to congregate in smaller areas which makes them more densely packed. Now locals have a hard time going to the beach because there is no where to park unless you have to pay, but people from out of state can come and rent houses with multiple family members per house. If these beach counties were really concerned with stopping the spread of Covid maybe they would consider limiting how many people can rent a home when coming from out of state, instead of restricting the people who live here from enjoying the beach. I am extremely disappointed in the actions of the local city councils and feel that these parking restrictions should be lifted immediately.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

jenbalt@icloud.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

nadine deif

Address

3305 Hartnett Blvd, Isle Of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Putting a paid parking lot or any public non recreational Center related parking spaces at the rec Center is simply crazy! Our kids ride their bikes up and down those streets and hang out there on weekends . Why would you be jeopardizing our kids safety for money or to fix another problem you created at the last meeting ?! This is one of the worst ideas I've ever heard. Let's see how restoring parking on Palm Blvd will resolve all these other "ideas" for parking. Thank you for understanding that our kids safety is our priority above parking revenues!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ndeif@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

James W Smiley

Address

16 44th Ave, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Council,

I am pleased to see that the January Marina Forum is finally on the City Council agenda. Although neither the agenda nor the accompanying meeting packet offer any clue as to what the focus of tonight's Marina input discussion might be, I am hopeful that City Council will now move forward with a plan to implement the wishes and wants heard from Citizens back in January.

As I read the preliminary collated results from the January meeting, the top of the list of amenities asked for by citizens were for a (1) Restaurant and for a (2) public dock with dedicated Kayak and paddle board launching facilities and (3) the green space of a City park complete with a kid's playground, etc. Our residents have spoken, it is clear what we want, it is now time to move forward. It appears that after months of negotiations, a new restaurant will become a reality. Thank you for your hard work. It is now time to put a similar effort into providing residents the dock space and green space needed for a first class Marina park.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

smileyj@isleofpalmssc.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Paul Poremski

Address

1420 Trip Line Dr, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

We would like All the parking back you have taken away in the past 8yrs. Side streets and both side of Palm Blvd with pull in parking and double parking.

How big of an easement is on each side of Palm Blvd that you do NOT own?

How many accidents have occurred on Palm Blvd from people backing out on the non water side in the last 8yrs?

STOP making new parking rules to eliminate day trippers who pay taxes in Charleston county.

Isle of Palm is not a private beach!

I like to visit the beach with my family and you have taken that away.

Paid parking is not an option!

Thank you,

Paul

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

poremskipa@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Katy Robinson

Address

29 28th Ave, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please eliminate or at least drastically reduce beach parking at the Recreation Center. I have lived here for 33 years and before the latest COVID restrictions my family had to avoid going to the beach in front of our road, 28th Ave, because the crowd density had become like front beach. This is an undue burden on the residents of 27th-29th Ave and Hartnett Blvd. to concentrate an excessive amount of beach parking in a residential area. As a compromise if you limited the available spaces to far less than what has been allowed in the past that would be an improvement. Maybe those spaces could be free and first come first serve, but well marked and limited.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

robinska77@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Peggy Rama

Address

9 Tabby Lane, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please do not let our rec department become beach parking. Don't cave to these people, they need to realize with the growth of Charleston and Berkeley counties that our island can never accommodate the amount of people who now live here. It's just not feasible, this is a residential island and if you start giving into their demands, they will only want and expect more. Until a more permanent solution can be worked out and while the virus is still with us, do what Sullivans island is doing... keep it moving, no coolers no umbrellas no chairs. And keep it in place as long as they do.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

prama@sonitrolsc.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr. Brad J. Dunnells

Address

1294 Hogans Alley, 29466, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Afternoon -

While I am not a resident of IOP, I am writing to express my opinion on recent parking restrictions on Palm Blvd. as well as any future parking restrictions or metered parking on Palm Blvd.

Based on science and CDC recommendations I see no reason to restrict parking on Palm Blvd. to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Based on my personal belief that beach access enhances our community's quality of life and should be free for all I oppose metered parking on Palm Blvd.

Best -

BJD

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

dxplive@hotmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Nancie Willett

Address

2350 Brackish Dr., Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I do not live on IOP, but on multiple occasions my family has rented a house there for a week in the summer, and I often daytrip there to relax on the beach. The recent ban of all parking for non-residents, except in the Front Beach area, is overly strict and unnecessary. When doctors and policemen are telling you that enjoying the (PUBLIC!) beach is healthy even in a pandemic and that overcrowding along miles of beach has NOT been an issue even in a pandemic, there is no justifiable reason to restrict non-resident parking so drastically to one small area. It is clear to EVERYONE that the pandemic is being used as an excuse. That's the bottom line-- you are using the pandemic as an excuse. Banning the nonresidents from parking throughout the island does NOT stop the spread of covid, period. You seem to view nonresidents as the enemy and we aren't. We support your island and its economy throughout the year by patronizing your restaurants and other businesses (Ex. I went to a hair salon there for over 20 years until my stylist left and opened her own on the mainland). We rent vacation homes there, even when we live close by. We pay to use the marina and I have paid in the past for either myself or my children to use recreational facilities for various activities. I also know people who attend or attended church on the island in the past. You welcome us then and now, suddenly, you treat us like lepers! I know there are many island residents who also agree that the recent parking ban was unnecessary. I respect that you all have a difficult job; I myself have served on an HOA board, and while that is less of an endeavor than serving on a town council, it was enough to understand the challenges you face and the difficult decisions you must make for the people you serve. But if you are honest with yourselves, your constituents, and the many who support your town in so many ways, you will be man or woman enough to admit that the decision you made was not necessary and was not well-thought out or logical, that the pandemic was just an excuse to do so. If you are man or woman enough to admit your mistakes, you will also reverse the decision that was made. Being willing to admit mistakes and rectify them is a sign of a true leader!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ncwillett@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr. Jacob Shuler Barker

Address

4 29th Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposal to add sections of 27th, 29th and Hartnett Avenues to the Island's paid parking plan. This appears to be item 4(b) on the most recent agenda for the July 28th Council meeting. The addition of these areas would inequitably add to traffic and congestion in this already busy section of the Island during the summer months. While I applaud City Council's efforts to manage a difficult situation, it seems strange to spend its resources finding a parking solution for non-constituents at the expense of actual IOP residents and property owners. If you would like to hear more from me my email is jake.s.barker@gmail.com. Thanks

Jake Barker

4 29th Avenue

Isle of Palms, SC 29451

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

jake.s.barker@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Lauri Ashmore

Address

12 27th Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please DO NOT put Parking Kiosks on 27th, 29th and Hartnett Blvd! Before the new temporary parking restrictions were implemented a few weeks ago, the Rec Center/ Park was full of day trippers parking all over the grass, etc. With that came increased traffic, trash, loud music, vulgar language, and people cutting through resident's lawns to get to the beach. This area is mostly home to permanent residents. We are not elitists, nor do we consider IOP our very own, private beach. The island is home to over 4300 residents who live here year round, and the people from surrounding neighborhoods such as Mt Pleasant need to respect that! The temporary no parking rules will be lifted soon, and the high season is winding down. Please don't rush to any decisions due to pressure from Mt Pleasant, when you have the whole off season to ponder over what is best to do for IOP. If anything, put the parking kiosks on Palm Blvd where the public has been parking for years! Please don't encourage them to come up into the residential neighborhood part of the island! And maybe get Sullivan's Island to re-open their beaches to help us out too!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ashmore101@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr. Ron Zeigler

Address

2704 Hartnett Blvd, IOP, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I hope you guys aren't serious about turning Hartnett Blvd & the Rec Center into a public parking lot.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

rzeigler@zepco.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Patty Roddy

Address

2904 B Palm Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

We are shocked to hear that there is consideration for public /paid parking at the rec center in the middle of a residential neighborhood. The influx of traffic will make It unsafe for all of the children, adults, and dogs that visit the park every day, and decrease property values. Keep the paid parking down by front beach where all the amenities are. I'm sure my neighbors will not appreciate the urinating, littering, stripping of clothes and rinsing off with water jugs that I have to witness every day out my front window due to the beach parking in front of my house. In fact I am totally opposed to resume any type of parking on Palm Blvd. For once I can pull out of my driveway without risking my life due to blocked vision from parked trucks,suvs,cars in front . What is point of having a City Council that doesn't represent the residents of IOP, and instead seam to be supporting the residents of Mt Pleasant? We would like to discuss efforts for a permanent solution to this problem to protect our residents, visitors , and first responders. This is NOT the solution!!! Thank you.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

pattyroddy@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Seth Clark

Address

16 29th Ave, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I understand from speaking with neighbors that City Council is considering a move to make parking along 29th Avenue paid parking available for beach goers. Our family and others nearby are very concerned about these proposed changes. There is no control over the types of activities beach goers participate in. On the infamous IOP re-opening day in May, from our home, we watched beach parkers - not go to the beach. Three cars decided on a multiple outing activity and literally tail-gated on 29th Avenue with trunks open, some sitting on tailgates, some forming a circle, all with alcohol and smoking. We have since seen this activity repeated along 29th and Hartnett at rec center. There is a huge difference between Palm Boulevard parking and the beautiful recreation center and playground for beach parking. The biggest difference being that parkers on Palm Boulevard desire to move rather quickly from their parking spot to the beach. At the rec center, it is a lovely setting and they actually desire to stay awhile and then maybe move on to the beach after getting in a few drinks. This dramatically changes the atmosphere for my children playing in the yard and the safety they feel. It also changed the family-oriented feeling that everyone currently enjoys at the rec center playground.

When we purchased our home on the corner of 29th and Skinner, we anticipated and welcomed the family-safe atmosphere and busyness of the activities, playground and soccer field. As you are all well aware of, there is no way to truly control the drinking/use of marijuana in cars before unloading at the beach, or the cigarette smoking that inevitably takes place. We have enough trouble controlling this in our other areas. The rec center is the hallmark of the best of healthy and safe Isle of Palms living. The parking would taint that completely which would be a tragedy.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

swclark79@hotmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Erin Cobb

Address

954 Cottingham Drive, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

I am a native of Isle of Palms and have continued to be a "day tripper" there since moving to Mt Pleasant. My family has a long history on IOP and I have great issue with the recent parking restrictions. The reasons given were to help with social distancing and control the numbers. I work in healthcare so I am huge proponent of trying to control COVID 19. However, this does nothing to help that. Instead of allowing individuals the ability to social distance along the entire beach, they are now being funneled to 2 locations. I have always avoided front beach even before COVID 19 and that is the last place I would want to be now...because of the crowds.

I understand that while the tricity area has grown, the physical beaches have not. I understand there needs to be some crowd regulation.

So maybe limit parking to just one side of Palm Blvd instead of both? First come first serve and if you park illegally, you get a ticket. That would limit numbers but also allow for distancing down the entire beach. Or maybe allow permits to those that do live here (East Cooper/Charleston area) and have paid parking for tourists. I regularly pick up trash, fill in holes so that turtles don't get trapped, and in general respect the space. I would guess that most that live here are going to take better care of the beach than vacationing tourists so let them pay.

IOP is part of a larger East Cooper community and needs to keep that in mind when making decisions about ongoing parking regulations.

We all need some therapy these days and the beach provides free therapy for so many that need it. While \$10/day seems like not a lot, it can be for some people.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

erincsmith74@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Bernadette King

Address

2705 Cameron Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please do not implement paid parking on Harnett Blvd around the Rec Center. This is very much a residential area and parking at the Rec Center creates chaos when beach parking is allowed. Parking there dramatically increases traffic and multiple side road access with two-way traffic flow on all roads makes for high volume and unsafe conditions. It also causes illegal parking in non-parking zones and personal property. Paid parking will close out access to the Rec Center for residents- its primary purpose. Recently, one sideway was created from the Rec Center to Palm Blvd in order to increase safety of pedestrians, including the summer camp kids. Please don't increase pedestrian risk with uncontrolled, high volume parking in the midst of a residential neighborhood and a community gathering spot. Ideally, this "unregulated" space will be officially and clearly designated as a residents only parking zone. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to hearing the views of residents and acting in the best interests of the island.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

Bernadettekingma@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Kimberly Baden

Address

3102 PALM BLVD, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Food for thought about parking on Palm Blvd. I know Palm Blvd. parking will eventually reopen when the time is right, but for people who have/rent houses on the ocean side, it is almost impossible to see in order to pull out of driveways when cars are parked down Palm on the ocean side. Four feet from the road seems like a lot but when cars are lined up you literally have to stick the nose of your car out into the lane to get a safe visual to pull out onto the road. The grass area across the street is much deeper before the sidewalk which allows for beach parking as well as extra space for folks crossing the street and/or pulling out of driveways to see due to the depth of the grass area. I think the city should reconsider parking across the street on palm (paid or unpaid) so people have room to see when crossing the street or pulling out onto the roadway. Parking on the ocean side is honestly quite dangerous for everyone in my opinion. Thank you in advance for your consideration of these comments.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

kbarone@motleyrice.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Sophia Springer

Address

1481 Center Street Ext, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

I respectfully submit my thoughts on the latest developments involving parking at IOP.

Issue: Emergency vehicle passage along Palm Blvd.

IOP Position: Eliminating parking on land side of Palm Blvd. will preserve the ability of emergency vehicles to pass.

IOP's concern for the safe passage of emergency vehicles on Palm Blvd. is certainly warranted. It is important. Fully eliminating parking seems a drastic overreach considering the following: The amount of space gained by the elimination of parking on this side of the road is already limited by the row of planted palm trees. Even still, the space between the palms and the road does provide for additional space for vehicles to pass. Why couldn't the parking be moved further from the current restriction of 4' from the road? Why not move the parking an equal (or greater) distance from the road as the row of palm trees? For example, if the palm trees are 7' from the road, why not move parking to 7.5'? There is plenty of space for this idea to accomplish the goals of maintaining areas to park while also creating additional space for the passage of emergency vehicles.

Issue: Public access

IOP Position: South Carolina Beachfront Management Act minimum requirement of 6 spaces for every 1/8 mile of beach.

The spirit of the act was clearly stated early in the document. "It is in the state's best interest to protect and promote increased public access to beaches for visitors and South Carolina residents alike." I'd like to emphasize the words "protect and promote INCREASED access." It seems the spirit of this act is being violated by the plans to eliminate parking when clearly the purpose of the act is to actually increase public access for visitors and all SC residents in addition to environmental protection. The beach is an essential component to life in this county. It is a place for all to gather and enjoy and should be treated as such. The notion that beach goers should ride bikes or take an Uber is concerning. How is a family with small children going to ride their bikes across the IOP connector? The idea is disingenuous and dangerous. The truth is a family could not and would not ever take their bikes across the connector. As for the idea of an Uber, how many ride sharing drivers have vehicles that can accommodate a family- the space for child safety seats, beach supplies, etc? Further, is Uber safe when considering COVID? Please think critically about the logistics of a family traveling for a day at the beach and the potentially dangerous and unnecessary hardships the elimination of parking will place on families.

Please consider the needs of the greater community and the role IOP plays in this region in your decision making. Thank you for your service to the public.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
sophiagracespringer@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Deborah Carico

Address

11 27th Avenue, IOP, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Parking is and has been an issue for our island. I understand the need to address these issues and come up with plausible solutions. However, I am concerned with how council creates one idea and then in a year (or months) comes up with another Idea. For example, we relocated back to the island after purchasing our house in 2006. At that time parking was allowed on most side streets or avenues like 24rd or 27th. A few years later, parking was restricted on these side streets with signs stating residential parking between 9am and 6 pm for certain months of the year. Later, those signs were taken down and new signs were posted with a new parking policy of residential parking From 9am and 6pm year round. During this time, the policy on parking on Palm has altered multiple times ranging from parking perpendicular was allowed to restrictions of parking parallel with an added restriction of no double parking. Understandably, during the pandemic, parking restrictions have occurred. Currently, the restrictions of allowing parking only in city lots on front beach at 50 percent and parking at the county park with no parking in Palm has forced beach goers into congested areas (while also causing Mount Pleasant neighbors to view IOP residents as selfish elitists). With a plan of adding paid parking restricted to 27th and 29th to alleviate front beach parking will create another congested area. As council seeks a solution that is "fair" to both residents and non-residents, I hope members will try to create a plan that distributes parking throughout the island so that beach goers are spread out. I suggest an idea with free parking and paid parking: Paid parking in existing front beach spots, paid parking in County Park, paid parking on 27th and 29th in pre-existing paved spots (no new paved spots), paid parking in the Breach Inlet parking lot, free parking on beach side of Palm, and no parking on land side of Palm —due to safety issues for cars pulling out of side streets onto Palm and pedestrians crossing Palm. Additionally, keep the 9am -6pm residential parking restrictions on the side streets for safety measures for bikers, walkers, and children.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

dhcarico@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Tracy L. Worsham

Address

100 Issac Court, Goose Creek, South Carolina 29445

Comments for Council Meeting

I understand the Council is meeting tonight to revisit the issue of parking and specifically with regard to Palm Boulevard. While I do not live on the IOP, I have friends that do and visit often. I am hopeful that you all will show some backbone and not back down from your 30 day parking change. If people like you and big companies like Walmart and Target don't stand up, things won't change. When parking does resume on Palm Boulevard, if you are only going to have parking on one side, it should NOT be the beach side. I have first hand experience how you can get hit trying to leave because you can't see past the cars. On the other side where the sidewalk is, it is much easier to see and less chance for an accident. Let people complain to Sullivan's Island to open their beach and perhaps yours won't be as crowded. Again, PLEASE DO NOT BACK DOWN FROM THE CURRENT 30 DAY PARKING CHANGE! I WOULD EXTEND IT THROUGH THE SUMMER. TAKE A STAND AND STICK WITH IT!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

tlworsham@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Kevin Bunting

Address

Shields Ln, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Mayor Carroll,

It appears you and the City Council are exploiting this pandemic to restrict parking by claiming it reduces the spread of COVID, however forcing 90% of local beachgoers onto 10% of the beach actually increases the COVID risk.

I understand two council members (Buckhannon, Hill-Smith), Police Chief Cornett, and many island residents voted against or have spoken against the restrictions but you and your followers continue with this plan that serves your voting base while trampling the rights of the local community.

Please reverse this decision right away.

The Claims:

Beach crowds contribute significantly to the spread of COVID.

Restricting beach parking will reduce crowds and reduce the spread of COVID.

Beach road traffic causes problems for EMS vehicles.

The Facts:

Charleston beaches have never had a problem with social distancing – if you drop your beach chair within 6' of stranger, you'll get funny looks and 'bless your little heart'. Per CDC spreading COVID is far less likely on the beach than in restaurants and bars (which remain open on IOP).

IOP restricts locals from using the beach but invites travelers to IOP rental properties even though CDC says traveling spreads COVID. Whether visitors bring it with them or catch it en route the result is the same – they share it around our lowcountry restaurants and stores then they head on home.

IOP has six miles of beach but virtually all local beachgoers are herded into (paid) parking in one spot with crowded access ramps, then forced to make long walks with all their gear to find open spots down the beach.

People with physical disabilities or higher COVID risks are virtually banned from the beach because of the hardships created by the crowds and long walks.

The claims that this helps EMS access are absurd because the ordinance forces all traffic into one spot causing more traffic issues, not less. And Charleston area drivers know how to pull over to make room for emergency vehicles - we manage to do it on small crowded downtown streets and we can do it on the beach roads.

The Truth:

IOP rental companies and owners win with rental income despite the added risk to local communities.

IOP residents win with virtually private beaches and more free beach parking than anyone could ever use (important to acknowledge though... many residents don't support this plan)

IOP Mayor and council members who passed the ban win votes and support – especially from rental companies and property owners

Mayor Carroll and IOP City Council – please meet immediately and vote to remove the parking restrictions.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bunting

Mount Pleasant Resident

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

kevin.bunting@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Kevin Bunting

Address

Shields Ln, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Mayor Carroll and IOP City Council,

Please address the beach access and parking plan at tonight's council meeting and vote to reverse the unfair parking bans. Claiming you restricted parking to curb the spread of COVID is just silly because you clearly created the opposite of a COVID plan by forcing all 'daytrippers' into one crowded spot while residents enjoy 5-6 miles of private beaches and parking. All of Charleston can see you've simply exploited the pandemic in your continuing efforts to privatize the island. Your message cannot be any clearer than stated on your hundreds of signs... 'Residents Only'. Yet so many residents and property owners have voiced opposition to the parking bans that it seems they generally don't like being represented this way.

We understand that traffic and parking gets a bit crazy in the summer but that's part of the beauty of the beach and always has been - even the years I lived on the island. It actually brings me joy seeing all those people heading out to the beach, and it's because so many others feel the same that virtually every level of government has passed legislation protecting the public's right to beach access and parking. Yet you've trampled those rights and now you have the beach to yourselves - you've shamelessly banned all locals from the entire island except the one big crowded COVID party at the pier while you and your residents and renters enjoy miles and miles of private empty beaches. And even more shameful is the way you've used the pandemic as your excuse to accomplish these goals.

But this is nothing new because you've been quietly removing beach access in this way for years, most recently claiming that emergency vehicles can't make it through the crowds on Palm Blvd because there's no room. But that's another excuse because Palm Blvd has a 100' right of way for a 25' wide two lane residential/beach road... that means you have another 75' of shoulder but somehow can't figure out how to park on both sides. Coleman Blvd has the same 100' right of way and they manage four lanes of traffic, a turn lane / median, parking, and sidewalks... and ambulances still manage to get through traffic. If IOP can't figure out how to get EMS down the road, then it appears they aren't trying very hard. Remember it's not the job of the city to point out the problems and use them as an excuse to eliminate public parking... it's your job to put in some effort to solve the problem while still maintaining public parking and beach access.

Mayor Haynie and other public servants - we need your help to encourage IOP city officials to reverse the current parking ban and turn back the recent permanent parking restrictions, and prevent future restrictions (maybe you can do it more tactfully than me)

My daughter started a petition to reverse the parking ban a week ago and already has more than 1500 signatures!

<https://www.change.org/p/jimmy-carroll-equal-beach-access-in-charleston?redirect=false>

It's posted on the fb group Charleston Area Public Beach Parking and Access

https://www.facebook.com/groups/3182206055161664/?post_id=3193395754042694

Sincerely,

Kevin Bunting

Mount Pleasant, SC

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
kevin.bunting@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Kevin Bunting

Address

Shields Ln, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Mayor Carroll and IOP City Council,

I just checked the fb group page 'Charleston Area Public Beach Parking and Access' and saw more and more support for reversing the parking bans - and many of those people are IOP residents/owners. I urge you and the council to look at the page before making your decisions tonight. The admin have done a great job creating this site and keeping it fair and open - a few nasty comments sneak in (from both sides) but the overwhelming theme is people who are sincerely hurt by this parking ban and simply want you to do the right thing.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/3182206055161664>

We hate that so many IOP residents feel picked on as selfish or elitist... but those comments are meant for the decision makers and few residents/owners/industries who are forcing this decision on the whole community - including the residents. Yes they need you to represent their rights but come on... they're beach people (it's ok to stereotype them)... they're laid back welcoming happy folks who wouldn't typically exploit COVID to squash the rights of the little people.

And we appreciate the efforts of public servants trying to navigate this new normal and we've all accepted some unpopular decisions that impact our lives but in this case there's such overwhelming evidence that you've made the wrong decisions for the wrong reasons... that's what stirs up all this passion.

other notes...

The entire beach parking ban is clearly a farce but how on earth do you justify banning parking 24/7?!.. You don't even allow for the simplest most obvious thing you could do... let us come over for morning surf or afternoon walks or all day Mon-Thurs to reduce the weekend crowds!.. but nothing!.. we drive for miles up and down the beach looking at your sign pollution*... 'NO PARKING - RESIDENTS ONLY' And they're ALL empty bc residents live there... they don't drive to the beach.

Some people say we should 'quit whining and be patient bc it's just a few more weeks and there's a pandemic going on and...' well those are just more patronizing shots bc the truth is:

It's at least a few more weeks, then you'll vote on extending the ban and making permanent restrictions

These few weeks are the best beach weeks of the year... and they're quickly going away while you corral us at COVID Beach* and ignore all requests for discussion. Everyone knows you'll back down when the lawyers show up bc you're absolutely in the wrong but these 'few weeks' will have come and gone (we're not that dumb)

Accusing us of arguing really burns bc you took deliberate action to trample our rights... speaking up for right is not whining... it's necessary to make things right

Finally... I find it interesting that you take this action behind the scenes at a time when there's no public involvement and you refuse to respond or defend your actions. Yes I guess the pandemic IS driving this parking ban... because you hide behind it so well.

Sincerely,

Kevin

* legal disclaimer... 'COVID Beach' and 'Sign Pollution' and pretty much any good ideas were swiped from the fb page... go check it out

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
kevin.bunting@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Tom Carico

Address

11 27th Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I oppose the proposal for Kiosk paid parking along 27-29th Avenue and Hartnett Blvd. and believe that parking in this area should remain recreation use only. The traffic resulting from this proposal would create safety issues, particularly for pedestrian and bicycle traffic and would negatively impact the residential quality of life in this area.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

tomcarico@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Rebecca Bowen

Address

128 Sparrow Dr, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451-2514

Comments for Council Meeting

First of all, I want to commend you all for doing a difficult job during a very trying time. I appreciate everything you've all done to try and keep the residents safe!

I have 2 very small children and my number one concern in regards to the parking issues is safety. I ask you to please take into consideration those of us who don't live on Palm in regards to allowing people to park on side streets. I have had multiple incidents where cars are speeding through side streets and flying through stops signs and have come within feet of children! I hope you will consider not allowing any parking on side streets or parallel streets as people treat these streets as their own personal racetracks!

Thanks again for all of your hard work and dedication to the job!

-Rebecca Bowen

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

rebeccalcbowen@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Joy Duncan Smith

Address

2804 Hartnett Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I think beach parking should be allowed at the 2 lots near the rec center and the ball fields. I don't mind people parking in front of the soccer field. I would like to see beach parking limited dawn to dusk in areas other than downtown at the meters. I like to be able to tell my party guests they can park across from my house. I don't want to see that parking outlawed. There's got to be a way to share this space. There is also the dead end at 28th. Marked spaces for parking in the circle. People renting vacation homes have parking. Day passes are needed May-Sept for day trippers. But more spaces will need to be created.

Widen more beach paths for golf cart parking.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

joyiopsc@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Debbie Pearson Pearson

Address

1928 N Smokerise Way, Mt Pleasant, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Council,

I wish to voice my concerns along with so many others. I have grown up here in Charleston and spent lots of time on all our beaches. The beach was a place of beauty and free from time restraints and money. As a young mom I could bring my kids here and they would play for hours. There was no stress because I didn't have to watch a clock about a meter and worry about getting a ticket. Now as a grandmother I want to bring my grandchildren there and teach them about our beaches, how to be a responsible citizen by cleaning up behind us and how to appreciate God's beauty. As a local I want as much space around me as possible even before Covid. Please give us back free parking. THis is so important to many of us.

Thank you,

Debbie Pearson

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

dbpearson1@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

David Scott

Address

814 Hideaway Bay Lane, Apt I, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

If parking is being restricted because of the risk of covid, why are you not shutting down your restaurants where there is a higher risk of contracting covid?

As the city mayor is involved in real estate, the parking ban will likely increase housing prices in IOP, is the mayor concerned about corruption charges being brought forward with regards to use of public office for personal gain?

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

davidatgmaildotcom@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Gregory Carbone

Address

3973 Blackmoor Street, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

I want to constructively contribute time the decisions the Mayor and Council are making and considering by expressing concerns over the parking situation. The recent decisions have alienated your neighbors Mt. P and I'm sure other towns. I'll only speak for Mt. P where I live.

Many Mt P residents care for the IOP beaches even more than the residents of the Island. We park thoughtfully, pick up our trash and the trash of many others and treat it like it's our home. In Short, most of us are the perfect neighbors. Neighbors are there to help out during good times and bad. Neighbors pay taxes that often get used to replenish the beautiful beaches of places like Isle of Palms.

By alienating the neighbors what does that do to the helping hands that are out there in case you need them? What does it do to the ability to get future funding for those beaches?

Clearly this is not really a Covid related issue. Notice it's the only time I mentioned the dreaded virus in this comment. Thank you in advance for including this comment in your thought processes.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

carbonegreg@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Joy Duncan Smith

Address

2804 Hartnett Blvd, Isle of Pslms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I'm concerned about the crosswalk on Palm near the Harris Teeter where the two lanes merge into one lane. This area becomes a NASCAR event with people speeding up to merge left. And then you have people on bikes and golf carts trying to cross traffic using the so ill marked crosswalk. The area needs to be painted with larger stripes and in a big square shape with a standing blinking sign in the middle of it to warn drivers that there is a crosswalk coming up. This whole area is a mess.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

Public Safety Committee

Email Address

joyiopsc@aol.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Tim Ahmuty

Address

P.O. Box 23, Isle of palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

With all due respect to council and the mayor. This is the worst idea yet. Instead of looking for ways to increase parking, we should be working on a plan to cap the number of parking spaces. We are not a parking lot for Charleston, Berkeley and Dorchester counties. We are a city with neighbors and family and have rights of quiet enjoyment. The island already provides more parking and access to the beach than is required by law. I realize no plan is perfect but parking at the rec center is a bad idea. Maybe if the surrounding counties did not develop every square foot they could provide recreational areas for their citizens instead of pointing them in our direction. Please do the right thing and put island residents first. I appreciate council and the mayor for your hard work and dedication to the citizens of the isle of palms during these most difficult time.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

Tahmuty@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Jamie Meek

Address

2515 Cheswick Lane, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Hi everyone – I ask that you please take a few minutes to read this and discuss at this evening's meeting.

Nearly 13 years ago I moved to Mount Pleasant for a dream life, life at the beach. The warm air, the salty breeze, palm trees. I picked up my life and left family and friends, and made it happen. I will never forget the sense of freedom and happiness I felt driving over the connector with the ocean coming into view that first afternoon as a South Carolina resident. I called my Grandma from the beach and can still remember the sense of amazement I felt standing on that sand, looking around, and realizing this was my new normal. She was so proud of me. I've spent the last 13 years relying on the beach for peace, mental health, for fun. Now with two kids I am so humbled and happy they're able to grow up in this way of life. They love nothing more than an evening on the beach after school, time on the weekend with friends and family. Trying to 'surf' on their boogie boards. Searching for shells and crabs.

I vowed to myself 13 years ago to never take the beach for granted and always make it a priority to spend time there in my life.

It's been noticeable over the years how access and parking to living that way of life has become more difficult.

We're part of the same community, the same town – separated by a small bridge. We're reliant on you for the beach life we all love, and cherish, and pay for. You rely on our side of the bridge for access to anything and everything not on Isle of Palms. You rely on our shops, our stores, our restaurants, our HOSPITALS. Many aren't able to live on your island, or any of our surrounding islands. But we all live here to go to our public beaches nearby. And that is just the way it should be. I completely understand the need for balance between your residents and vacationers and those of us paying taxes and coming here to our beautiful town to enjoy our beaches. If changes need to be made to how we can all access OUR beaches, why aren't we working together? Why don't we TOGETHER come up with solutions that are fair and just to all of us. Why would you make such drastic measures to literally burn bridges and put up a wall like this?

This year has been tough, for everyone. My husband and I work in the corporate travel world, our global company has been crippled by this pandemic and the job I've cherished for 15 years is at risk every day. Coworkers and dear friends have lost their jobs. While managing through that I then suddenly have two young kids at home with us, all of the time. The mental stress and burden we're all dealing with is unthinkable at times. I may have a first grader who is either going to start school and HOME, or go back into a world behind a mask and plexiglass. It's unthinkable. And now, to find I literally can't go freely to the beach I've come here for – the reason I'm here, is unthinkable. I honestly can't believe I even have to write this message, how did we come to this?

I was 'fortunate' to get a parking pass from one of your MANY residents who are against these restrictions this past weekend. The 'no parking signs' on every square inch of your streets is not a great look, it doesn't reflect well on you as a community or on Charleston as a whole. My kids were, as usual, thrilled to be out at the beach. I feel so disappointed and helpless and angry at the fact we can't hop in the car, as we've always done, and have the freedom to do that. There are PUBLIC beach access points along your entire coast for a reason, it's there for EVERYONE. Not one tiny area.

Absolutely nothing that's been done recently on the island regarding parking is due to COVID. That is very obvious to everyone. Please, please, take a step back, and think about the big picture. Think about those of us on the other side of the bridge. Think about the kids. I can't take my kids to the beach!??? The world is going through enough unthinkable stress, pain, and sadness. One of the most basic reasons we're all here, if for the beach. You do not have the right to take that away. The sadness and frustration this topic brings to us and so many others is not right. You know, this is not right.

Let's work together on the what the right path forward is – while allowing EVERYONE to enjoy the salt air and sunsets we all know and love TODAY. Please.

If I can be a liaison between yourselves and Mount Pleasant residents and Town Council to do so, please contact me. Thank you, appreciate your consideration.

843-957-2114

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
jamie.meek@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Diane C Zeigler

Address

2704 Hartnett Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I am totally opposed to having paid parking at the Rec center. The park is a safe place for our children to enjoy. We need no more enticement for people to crowd this space. They should only park around the Rec center if they are using it for its intended purposes. The basketball and tennis courts are heavily used by local residents and their children. We don't need day guests to speed or crowd this area. If you care about the youth on Isle of Palms you will not pass anything that will bring more nonresident people to this area.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

dzeigler@zepco.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Michael Douglas Ballard

Address

398 Parapet Ct, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Thank you council for your service and the opportunity for public comment. I understand and appreciate the intention of the parking ban to limit the spread of Covid-19. However, I believe restricting coolers, umbrellas and chairs would be as effective, if not more. I kindly request council reconsider the parking ban, and instead consider how the beach can be used safely, and allow the citizens within our community access to parking so that this great resource can be enjoyed by all. Thank you, Mike Ballard

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

MikeBallard5@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Dr. Nancy Hahn

Address

1 49th Ave., IOP, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I am not in favor of paid kiosk parking in any residential neighborhood. We are not a dense, urban municipality with large commercial areas. Please keep our residential parking opportunities for our residents and rental property visitors!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

hahnnw@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr Bryan J Enright

Address

2902 Hartnett Blvd, Isle Of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Before opening up Hartnett and other secondary streets to parking just open up Palm where there is ample room. Frankly our yard does not have any room for parking. Also our kids ride bikes in the street on Hartnett. Have you ever seen Hartnett at 4-5pm on a busy weekend as people try to leave the beach. We have often had to disallow our kids from being anywhere near the street as people race down the road to by-pass the traffic. Adding parking would just further the danger to Island residents trying to get to and from the Rec-center facilities.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

bryan.enright@live.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Pete Zamboki

Address

2804 Waterway Blvd., Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I understand the Council is entertaining paid beach parking via kiosks on 29th, 27th and Hartnett around the Rec Center. Our house is on the corner of 29th and Waterway, so we frequently deal with beach/park/dog park traffic. 29th over time has become dangerous as even locals speed down the road, primarily as they head to the dog park. Over the last two years, as more and more people come to the beach, they leverage 29th as they exit the beach to see if Waterway may provide a quicker exit than Palm. With two small children, we have seen very dangerous situations where cars are going much faster than the speed limit. Adding this parking scenario to the already dangerous situation, we strongly oppose this proposal. Please don't do this. 29th is already busy enough.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

pete.zamboki@workday.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Katie McCurry Katie McCurry

Address

33 22nd Ave, Isle of palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Mayor Carroll and Council Members,

I am very concerned with the idea to add paid parking at the recreation center. My children and their friends bike daily on Hartnett and the surrounding streets around the rec. The added traffic will create a dangerous situation for kids, cyclists, walkers, runners, golf carts, etc. Please keep traffic away from island kids and the rec center. Thank you for your continued work in putting IOP residents first.

Sincerely,

Katie McCurry
33 22nd Ave
Isle of Palms, SC

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

katiecmccurry@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Terri and Dave Sword

Address

3504 Waterway Blve, IOP, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

We understand there is a meeting to discuss kiosk beach public parking on Harnett, 27th and 29th avenues. We adamantly oppose this. Although we support everyone visiting IOP beach, we think it is unsafe to have parking around the recreation center/area. There are too many visiting and island children playing, biking, skateboarding and walking in that area. It would be dangerous to our precious children and families if beach public parking was allowed in this area. Please re-evaluate your plan with children at the forefront of your thinking. Thank you!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

beachedfamily@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Andrea Aikman

Address

1110 Island Club Drive, Charleston, South Carolina 29492

Comments for Council Meeting

Although, I am not an IOP resident, I have to submit a comment regarding the restricted Parking. I was very upset that IOP decided to eliminate most parking for non residents to a public beach area. If the island and or beach was private, that would be understandable. What's worse is to use the premise of Covid which clearly is absurd since you've now forced people into a small area where they are on top of each other. Additionally, most of the restrictions are needed for indoor spaces especially since there is plenty of room on the beaches to social distance. Although, you have been "generous" enough to allow people to pay for parking if they can arrive at one of the parking lots if they arrive early, residents of Charleston Mt Pleasant who regularly use the beach for exercise and activities should not be forced to pay several times a week.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

a_aikman@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Kristen Brueggemann

Address

2627 River Bluff Lane, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

My family and I visit the beach weekly. Similar to many beach goers, we have young children who love the beach and visiting requires a lot of stuff. The past two weekends we have parked in the public lot and walked nearly 10 streets in order to find a spot that allows for any social distancing at all. Add high tide to that and it is a nearly impossible task. The recent removal of parking along palm blvd has done nothing for the intended purpose (or excuse) to help prevent the spread of covid. If anything you should anticipate a spike as a result. I am trying to understand why spreading out along miles of IOP coastline would present more exposure to covid then one densely populated location. There is absolutely no logic to this parking restriction other than to entertain a politicians agenda. The tax paying residents of this county will expect to see this restriction change.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

kgealy@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Jeremy Grigsby

Address

876 quail drive, Charleston, South Carolina 29412

Comments for Council Meeting

I really hope Charleston county takes away control of the beaches from all 3 beach town councils. It's what you all deserve by first eliminating parking to make it easier for the public to accept paid parking. Tax payers already paid for the roads and now you are trying to tax them to park on them? Despicable. If you want to tear down some beach front homes to build parking lots without tax payer money, then you are welcome to charge for parking in those lots, but you have absolutely ZERO right to charge to park on the side of a road.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

aragornlongshanks@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Savies Shirbacheh

Address

35 32nd Ave, Isle Of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please DO NOT implement paid beach parking at or around the rec center. If council feels additional parking is warranted, please reopen one or both sides of Palm Blvd for parking. Palm blvd was designed for parking on both sides, has space to accommodate it, homeowners bought knowing it was public beach parking, most multi-million dollar Palm Blvd homes and their landscaping were designed with this in mind and parking along Palm Blvd naturally "spaces out" the day trippers, which helps with COVID social distancing. Concentrating day trippers into a single area does not help mitigate COVID risks nor promote social distancing. Besides this, our neighbor kids use and congregate at the rec center, not Palm Blvd. It is far safer to having parking on Palms Blvd for day trippers (designed for it, safest approach) than send the day trippers into the neighborhoods and to congregate around the rec center where our kids have summer camps and play time all day every day. Put parking where it belongs, do not push parking into the neighborhoods!!!!

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

srshirbacheh@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Sandra F Wade

Address

7 34th Avenue, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Why would you jeopardize our local children that ride bikes to the rec center to play? Isn't that the he point of having a local Recreation department for the IOP Residents?

Are you working to support other towns or your city and its residents? Put the parking on the ocean side of Palms with paid parking.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ir2crazy@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Rita Schlichter

Address

141 Sparrow Drive, Iop, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

This is in reference to Palm Boulevard Parking. It's a shame it's restricted for island residents only. I am a resident but have family members coming all the time with small children and it's hard because they can't park on palm. My daughter's who grew up here come to the beach all the time but now stopped because of parking situation. I have been to the beach several times and every time people were social distancing. This situation is sending more people to the front beach. It just seems like you don't want any one but residents to use the beach where it's actually a public beach. It's just a total shame going on.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

tita.schlichter@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Rita Schlichter

Address

141 Sparrow Drive, Iop, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

This is in reference to Palm Boulevard Parking. It's a shame it's restricted for island residents only. I am a resident but have family members coming all the time with small children and it's hard because they can't park on palm. My daughter's who grew up here come to the beach all the time but now stopped because of parking situation. I have been to the beach several times and every time people were social distancing. This situation is sending more people to the front beach. It just seems like you don't want any one but residents to use the beach where it's actually a public beach. It's just a total shame going on.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

tita.schlichter@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Susan Christine Denuel

Address

1260 Logbook Lane, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

We should have parking available to access the beach without meters.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

suedenuel@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Sarah Vega

Address

104 Sparrow Drive, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I shared my personal thoughts regarding the new "Resident only parking 24/7" ordinance via email with each council member, but as part of the public record, I would like to ask council to take these immediate actions at the 7/28/2020 meeting:

1. Immediately reverse the ban on parking along Palm Blvd. - to eliminate it 24/7 for anyone who isn't a resident is a gross overreach of power during a health "emergency," when our own police chief indicated that social distancing was not a problem in these areas.
2. Consider keeping the municipal lots at 50% capacity if there is evidence that it will aid in reducing the spread of COVID, but not if you just want a convenient way to reduce vehicle traffic.
3. Establish an opportunity for residents to provide feedback on an official parking plan. Please don't just take the comments you've received thus far and make a long-lasting decision tonight. Transparency is so important, and residents deserve the opportunity to share their opinions (for or against) on a comprehensive plan before you move forward.
4. Commit to maintaining at least some level of free parking along Palm Boulevard.

Thank you for your consideration and your service to our city in these unprecedented times.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

sarah.e.vega@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Lisa Pansing Lisa Pansing

Address

33 27th Ave, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I live on 27th and do not agree that 27-29th , along with the Rec center should become public/paid parking. This will cause extreme traffic issues in our neighborhoods.

Lisa Pansing

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

lisapansing@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Carolyn Phillips Holscher

Address

2 53rd Ave, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Please continue limited parking on the island until the current COVID surge has passed and the numbers start to go down. We have many senior property owners on the island, and many have have health issues which render them vulnerable to this virus.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

cholscher137@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Matthew Wright

Address

3833 Tupelo Church Lane, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29429

Comments for Council Meeting

Dear Isle of Palms City Council,

As a lifelong Mt Pleasant resident, the beach has always been a privilege that I have tried not to take for granted. The beach and ocean has served as a place of emotional healing and recreation for myself and my family. COVID-19 has presented new challenges for all communities and I understand those challenges are especially unique for our coastal communities. With so much that has been shut down or limited, people have been visiting the beach in higher volumes than before. While I do understand the concerns that this council has addressed, I believe it is important to consider those in the surrounding areas. In concern to new long-term parking regulations, I feel it is my duty to bring these to the Council's attention.

From hurricanes to politics, the entire Charleston area has always found unity in difficult times. Privatizing the beach will do nothing but drive a wedge between our close-knit communities. In recent years parking has already been significantly reduced on Palm Boulevard. Which surrounding communities have accepted with relative ease. I believe it will cause irreparable damage to our communities if even more public parking is taken away.

For years, Isle of Palms officials and residents have used the excuse that "daytrippers" come to Isle of Palms and do not spend money while on the island. While I cannot completely disagree that statement, it is also not entirely true either. There have been several times when my wife and I have driven onto the island to eat at The Windjammer, Coconut Joes, The Dinghy, and Acme. Unfortunately, I believe more restrictions will increase the likelihood of non-IOP resident NOT coming onto the island.

Some members of this council have also hidden behind the false claim that it is too unsafe to park on the Intercoastal side of Palm Boulevard. In all my years of visiting Isle of Palms (many several times a week throughout the entire year) I have NEVER seen or heard of complaints that it is too unsafe to cross Palm Boulevard. If this council feels the need to make Palm Boulevard safer, lower the speed limit first before making any more changes to parking capacity. There is already adequate signage giving pedestrians right of way in crosswalks and the 4ft buffer provides plenty of safety for walking. I do not feel it is the government's responsibility to eliminate the risks of crossing a street.

From the points that I've mentioned above, in addition to the testimony from MUSC doctors and your own police chief; it is clear the excuses this council has made as a reason to reduce parking are not legitimate. Surrounding communities need each other and I do not feel it is in the Isle of Palms' best interest for its citizens, businesses, and government to NOT to implement more restrictions on those in the surrounding communities.

I hope all council members will consider my points and vote against additional legislation.

Sincerely,

Matthew Wright

Mt Pleasant Resident

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:
City Council

Email Address
km-wright@outlook.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mindy Robertson

Address

3186 Pignatelli Crescent, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Please lift the recent 30 day parking ban you initiated due to Covid. Now we are all forced to park and crowd around the park & pier, putting us at an increased risk of catching the virus. Fresh air and a walk on the beach are good for all of us, especially during this challenging time.

Also, regarding considering implementing paid parking for “day trippers”, please remember that the locals in the surrounding area (like Mount Pleasant) frequent IOP businesses, especially the restaurants, on season and off. We pay our taxes, shop and eat in your town and contribute positively to the surrounding beaches. Don't discourage us from enjoying our public beach and visiting a place where you are blessed to live.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

Mindyandjimrobertson@comcast.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Parking in Isle of pams Virginia Wakeford

Address

4020harleston green ln, Same, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

It must be exeptions for Charleston county residents,we share oll our parking lots with residents of Isle of Pam's , it's not fare to make us pay every time we want to come for swimming or shot time just wuok on the beach

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

Viriniawakeford@yahoo.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mr John C Keaton

Address

3 Seahorse Ct, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

I heard about the latest city council proposal for paid parking on 27th and Harnett and the causes for this new proposal. The situation sounds to me like the city council has lost control of the island. Why is IOP's situation so different from Sullivans island and other beaches in the area? Can't we get some control over the parking issue in IOP? Post signs, add some warnings, and then ticket them, tow them or put a parking boot on them.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

jkeaton09@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Jamie and Bhakti

Address

997 Johnnie Dodds Blvd., Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

The town of IOP does not have the right to restrict access to the beach by reducing available parking or charging for parking. It's the towns responsibility to come up with solutions that manage unrestricted access to the beach in a way that doesn't impede movement of the residents who have chosen to live at a public beach.

If it's necessary to reduce the spread of COVID-19, then close the beach to everyone. The town of IOP does not have the right to create a private beach for residents by restricting public parking. That is abuse of power and privilege, and not a substitute for responsible planning and management.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

bhakti.x@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Victoria Lewis

Address

2175 Snyder Cir, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

While I understand your desire to keep citizens safe, the decisions you made during the last meeting were very upsetting, to say the least. The parking restriction was not even on the agenda to allow for public comments. Beaches are one of the few areas that people of all economic statuses can enjoy - and now you're taking that option away.

Social distancing was not a problem along Palm Blvd. - which makes me believe that this is practically a 'trial run' for when you decide to implement paid parking everywhere next year. Restrictions during a pandemic can be understandable - restricting people who can't afford to pay hourly or daily parking rates in the future is what's the more disconcerting and downright cold-hearted. If that's what it's coming down to, please consider some sort of pass for Charleston County residents, whose taxes contribute to your area as well.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

vlewis14@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Emily Huth

Address

3083 Morningdale Dr, Mount Pleasant, South Carolina 29466

Comments for Council Meeting

Please reconsider your parking ban on Palm Blvd. There are so few places to go that are safe anymore and with the beach so restricted, my kids can't enjoy the outdoors like they used to. My kids school isn't going to open, please allow us to access the beach beyond the crowded front beach. There's enough beach for everyone, please stop being selfish. Most of your constituents are AGAINST these measures as they are in direct contradiction to your experts advice last meeting. And please remember that IOP, SI, and MTP are one larger community. We share schools, stores, and recreation facilities. I would hate to think this ridiculous ban would be the beginning of more restrictions both ways as it would be detrimental to everyone. Also, the no parking signs all over the island are a real eyesore.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

ehuth7@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Barbara Keaton

Address

3 Seahorse Court, IOP, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

Ticket or tow non-resident parking.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

bckeaton@verizon.net

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs Amy Dancer

Address

2612 Magnolia Woods Dr, Mt Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Comments for Council Meeting

Since the beach parking changes you've made have less to do with the spread of COVID and more to do with permanent changes that you hope to implement in the future to better serve the permanent IOP residents, why not reverse those changes NOW? It is apparent that any Permanent parking changes you hope to make would not be able to be implemented until next year, so open up the parking now so Mt. Pleasant residents and families can enjoy the beach while it's summer. We support your island businesses year round but yet you are restricting our freedom to use a public beach under false pretenses. You are not a private beach or community & these changes should not be allowed,

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

afinley70@hotmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

jean brown

Address

2902 PALM BLVD, Isle Of Palms, ISLE OF PALMS, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

As I live on 29th Street and can testify first hand to the chaos, I urge the council not to allow any form of parking on 27th, 29th and Hartnett, whether paid or unpaid.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

jeancolin8484@gmail.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Ms Margaret V Millet

Address

2702 Hartnett Blvd, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

My concern is taking away 'free' parking for individuals wishing to use the recreation resources. Why should we have to pay for parking to use tennis courts, basketball courts, batting cage and various fields. Also, this will not solve the issue of not allowing parking on Palm Blvd. beach goers are looking for close / convenient parking.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

mvmiller9&@me.com

Public Comment For City Meetings

Name

Mrs. Patsy Ballou Hindman

Address

7 Barnacle Row, *, Isle of Palms, South Carolina 29451

Comments for Council Meeting

As a resident I thought it was nice not to have so much traffic on IOP over this past weekend, especially along Palm Boulevard. However, I can understand and appreciate the feelings expressed by our Mt. Pleasant neighbors who feel as if they are less able to enjoy IOP and patronize IOP businesses because of the recent 30-day parking restrictions. They have a valid point when they say that there is no evidence to imply that social distancing has been a problem on IOP beaches, much less evidence that Covid-19 is spreading because of visitors on the IOP beach. I do not at all understand reducing parking at the city lot by 50%. I can think of a lot of reasons to reduce parking along Palm Boulevard, public safety in general being one of them; reducing the spread of Covid-19 is not a valid reason. I hope that you will restore parking in the City Lot to full capacity and I hope that IF you continue to restrict parking along Palm Boulevard you will give valid reasons for doing so. Otherwise the opportunity to criticize the parking decisions is wide open.

Meeting This Comment is Intended For:

City Council

Email Address

pbhindman@bellsouth.net