

Welcome to the Brookline Parking Benefit District Advisory Board Ideas page. This google document is the repository for ideas.

FP1:

ORGANIZE and fund rapid and complete snow removal from sidewalks and metered parking spaces, both in local lots and on the street, after a snow event so that customers of Brookline Village establishments can be confident of easy access by car and foot. Make this extend to encompass the TWO NEW HOTELS and to the TWO SCHOOLS (OLS and Pierce), thereby making the more than just the merchants happy. Rapid and complete snow removal from sidewalks and by meters is in contrast to current practice that leaves icy sidewalks and tractor banks of plowed snow on the street, sometimes indefinitely. Make Brookline Village an oasis of good parking and pedestrian mobility in the aftermath of a snow event and ask the local merchants to publicize this to the advantage of Village merchants over less well groomed shopping districts. Extend to include pedestrian access to and from other high impact locations for enhanced customer access.

FP2

PROVIDE some sort of parking token or credit to customers of Brookline Village businesses that are dispensed by the establishment at the consummation of a sale. Does NOT have to be for a meter; could be for a period in the huge parking garage on Pearl St at Brookline Place. Note that the PARK_BOSTON smartphone app has a provision to accept a VALIDATION_CODE for “a (1) one time discounted rate” so potentially it is simple to dispense these codes through the businesses.

FP3

IMPROVE seating etc in the triangle at intersection Harvard and Washington (rename that triangle?). Make room for a busker/street entertainer there?

BK1

INCREASE the parking supply in the Brookline Village area by working with Town administration to stop the practice of parking town-employee vehicles and town-owned vehicles at metered spaces (which are not paid) in the Brookline Village area. Numerous such vehicles park at meters on Washington Street near the public safety building, in the town hall lot, and on Holden Street. Free parking for town employees is available in the garage underneath town hall, and for public safety employees and vehicles in the lot behind the public safety building, on Thayer Street, and at designated, non-metered spots on Washington Street. Metered spaces filled, often all weekend, by town vehicles are spaces unavailable for Brookline Village businesses.

This is a no-cost, policy-driven change that will increase the parking supply in the area.

BK2

On select weekend days once per month, close Harvard Street between School/Aspinwall and Washington Street to traffic to hold a street fair. This would allow restaurants to expand outdoor seating into the street, and retail establishments to expand their area for sales. Closing the street could be supported by the temporary installation of picnic tables, corn hole, and other street type games, and other tools designed to attract people. In evenings, a large screen could be set up and movies shown with people bringing their own chairs, with restaurants in the region offering special take-out orders to patrons. Street performers, etc. could also be encouraged to attend as a draw. Shut-down days could have themes - winter carnival, etc.

The cost of this proposal would be the cost of police details and related costs to manage vehicle diversions around the area of Harvard Street between School/Aspinwall & Washington Street when streets are closed. Additional costs would be the purchase, maintenance, and storage of any street furniture for use on festival days, plus management and marketing costs to attract the public to these events.

LWS1

Install and maintain decorative lighting on street trees and/or light posts. This can be in place beyond the winter season to enhance evening walkability and a festive atmosphere for dining and shopping.

AT1

Work with Marijuana Mitigation Committee to develop a proposal to cover the chain link fence that separates White Place from the NETA waiting area/parking lot. This could be a mural, in which case working with the Brookline Arts Commission or the Public Arts Commission would be helpful. Funds could come from our commission, the Arts Commission or the NETA funds that are earmarked to be spent on the neighborhood.

AT2

Parking ideas: Explore parking alternatives including limited time (8:00 - 10:00 am?) residential parking on residential streets frequently used for business parking. Explore the possibility of using some parking spaces in the large parking garage under the Brookline Place building. Explore the possibility of a specified construction vehicle parking area in the village.

FP4

Jitney service - institute (autonomous?) shuttle service in and around the Village connecting parking lots and garages, hotels, and Town Hall to the center of the Village.

LL1

Finding a way for residents in the BV commercial area without parking spaces to rent overnight (and potentially 24/7) parking from the Town on designated streets or designated lots, these fees will be part of the benefit to BV.

FP5

Free WiFi for visitors. A limit of 2-3 hours per day per user?