



Dear Denee,

Thank you for approaching the PRNC for input on the City of Richmond's parklet program rules. The PRNC held a special workshop on March 10, 2021, where the community discussed many of the issues surrounding the parklet program. The community consensus about parklets in Point Richmond is as follows:

The community is in favor of having parklets as the pandemic drags on. We want to support businesses during this time and understand that outdoor space is needed to replace unusable indoor space. However, after the pandemic is over, there is little, if any, support for parklets in downtown Point Richmond. The community discussed years of problems with limited parking, with nearby residents suffering when parking is removed from downtown. Residents expressed concern that people would not be able to visit the businesses at all if parking is unavailable, ultimately harming downtown, including businesses that do not use parklets, such as the markets. Also discussed were problems with the existing Up and Under parklet, including trucks blocking the narrow roadway now that deliveries must occur in the street, unattractive warning implements in the street, inaccessibility for disabled patrons, and a buildup of debris that will end up in the bay now that street sweeping is not possible in the area.

If the parklet program must be implemented in downtown Point Richmond, the community asks that the following limits be placed on the number and size of the parklets and the length of the permits:

- Applicants should visit the PRNC and present their proposal, allowing the PRNC to provide comment and giving notice to the community. The PRNC also supports having the Historic Preservation Commission review the parklets.
- No more than three parklets should be allowed downtown at any one time.
- Each parklet should be no larger than one parking space.
- The permits should be for only 1 year, maximum.
- The parklets should be accessible to disabled residents.
- The parklets should be easily removed temporarily so that events like Point Richmond Music can still occur.

-If a business has a sidewalk wide enough to accommodate tables, only a sidewalk seating permit, no parklet permit, should be issued.

-The parklet fees should be appropriate and compensate the community for the impact of lost parking. The community would be interested in having the limited number of parklets auctioned and in fee-sharing with the affected community.

-The community is not interested in closing Park Place to vehicle traffic, and there was little interest in participating in Parking Day, since it will be after things reopen.

The community would like to know whether parklets are restricted to the adjacent business (i.e. could a business apply for a permit for a parklet down the street from its address)?

We look forward to your visit to the PRNC meeting on March 31 to discuss these concerns.

Sincerely,

Peter Thelin

President, PRNC