



Downtown Bloomington

Business & Property Owner Parking Survey

Conducted February 2020

WELCOME

Through a collaborative effort between the City of Bloomington's Public Works and Economic Development Departments, Downtown Bloomington Business and Property Owners were surveyed regarding all facets of parking throughout the Downtown. The survey was conducted in February 2020 through a multi-platform approach, utilizing the City's GovDelivery email database, the Downtown Bloomington and City of Bloomington social media channels, Downtown Bloomington Farmers' Market social media, as well as door-to-door outreach. There were 150 surveys distributed with a total of 65 completing the survey, resulting in a 44% completion rate.

Downtown Bloomington is the heart of the community. Home to many shopping, dining, and nightlife establishments, as well as many annual community events. Downtown is often very busy with people traveling on foot, by bike, and in their cars.

It is the hope of the Public Works and Economic Development Departments that the information found within this report serves as a good resource for the decisions that will be made regarding downtown parking.

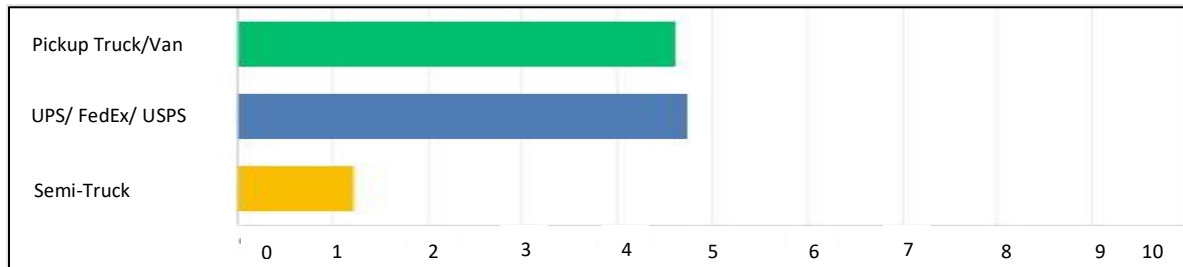
Survey Results

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Deliveries

Question: How many typical deliveries to/from your business do you receive per week?



Question: What time and day(s) do you typically receive deliveries to/from your business?

Out of the 57 respondents, the mode, date and time of delivery varies from business to business. The charts below illustrate the number of times business owners indicated they received deliveries.

Chart Scale: Green = Low Frequency to Red =High Frequency

Delivery by FedEx / UPS/USPS

	5am	6am	7am	8am	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm
Mon			1	3	6	11	11	12	10	9	6	3	1
Tues			1	5	6	12	13	11	9	9	7	4	1
Wed			1	4	7	13	12	11	10	9	5	3	1
Thur			1	3	6	12	11	11	9	9	6	3	1
Fri			1	3	5	13	10	10	9	7	6	3	1
Sat													
Sun													

Delivery by Semi

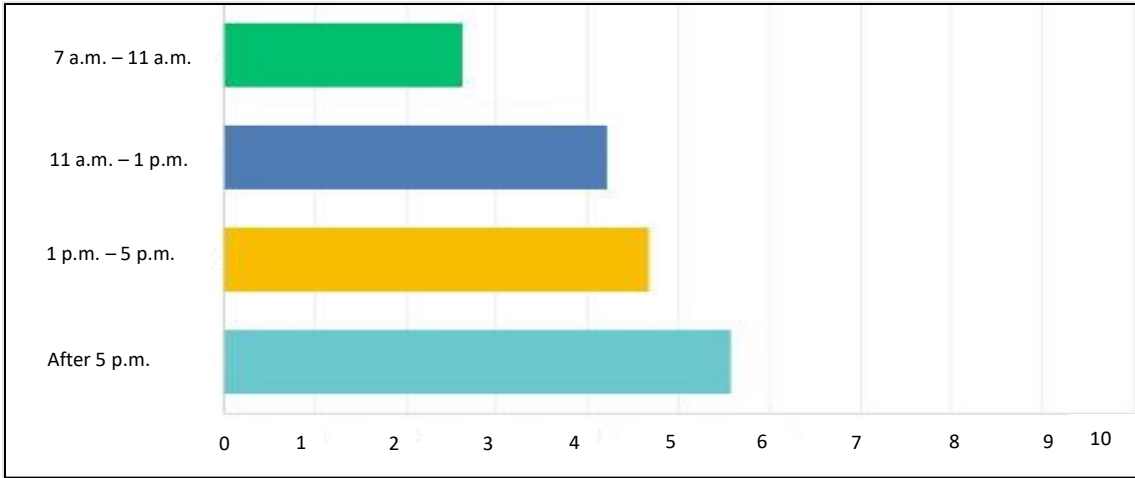
	5am	6am	7am	8am	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm
Mon			1	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	3		
Tues	1		2	4	5	4	4	3	3	3	3		
Wed			2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4		
Thur			2	2	3	3	4	3	3	3	3		
Fri	1		3	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	3		
Sat													
Sun													

Delivery by Truck

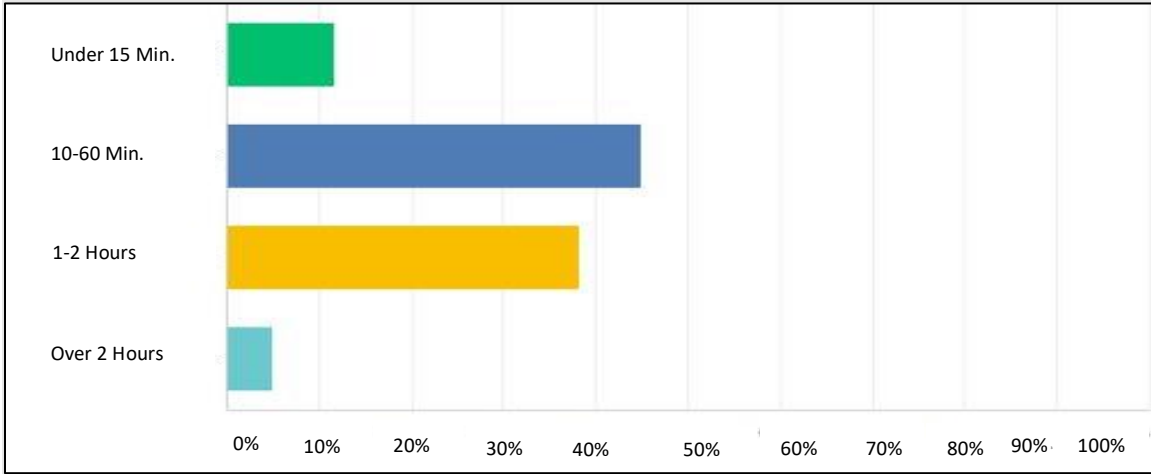
	5am	6am	7am	8am	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm
Mon			1	3	5	8	7	8	5	6	5	2	1
Tues			1	3	6	9	9	10	7	8	7	3	1
Wed			1	3	5	9	8	10	6	7	6	3	1
Thur			1	3	6	9	9	11	7	8	7	3	1
Fri			1	3	6	9	8	10	6	7	6	3	1
Sat						1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
Sun													

On-Street & Deck/Lot Parking – Customers

Question: Average number of parking spaces used by your customers at any given time.

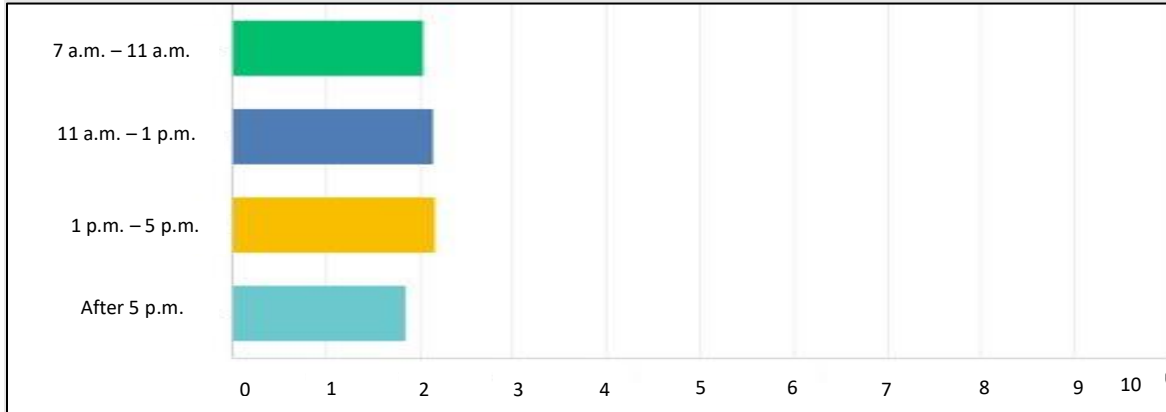


Question: Average length of time your customers are parked

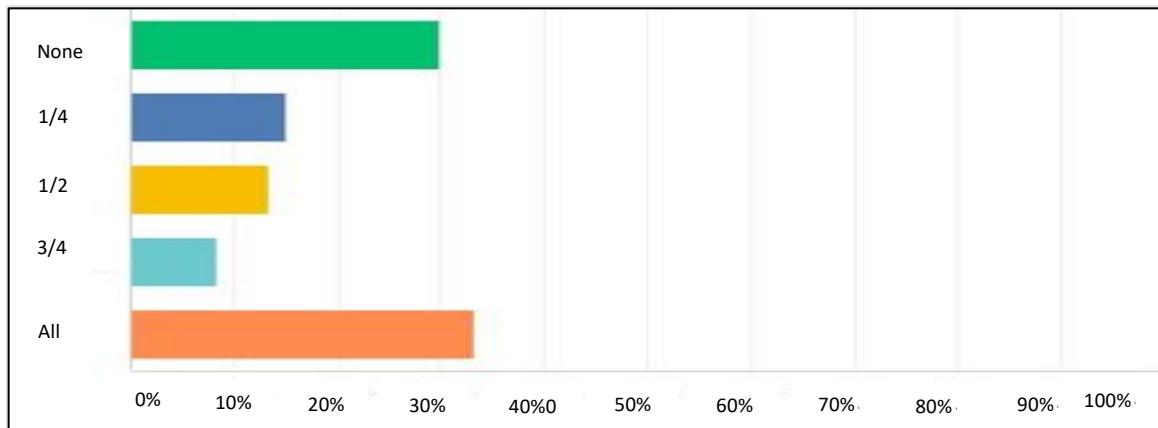


On-Street & Deck/Lot Parking – Employees

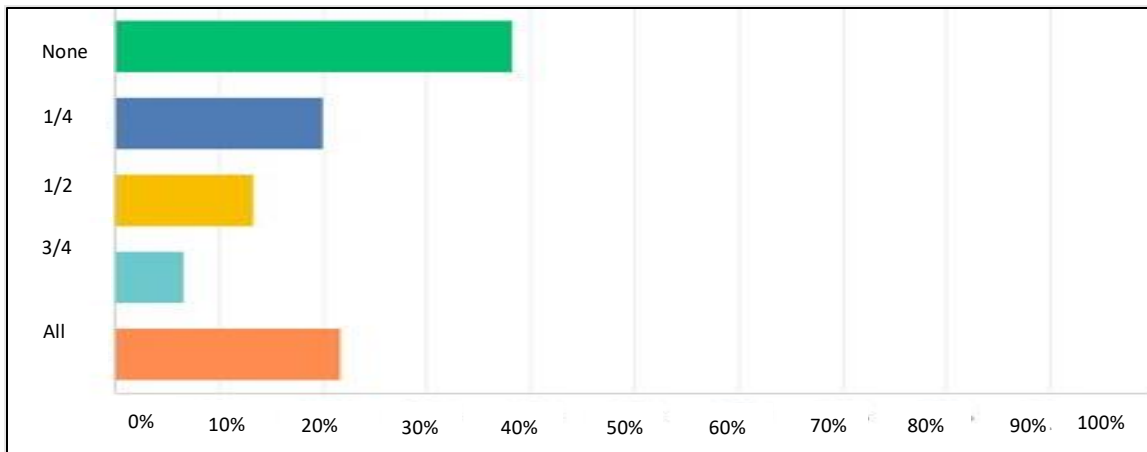
Question: Average number of parking spaces used by your employees at one time.



Question: About how many employees park in a parking deck/lot

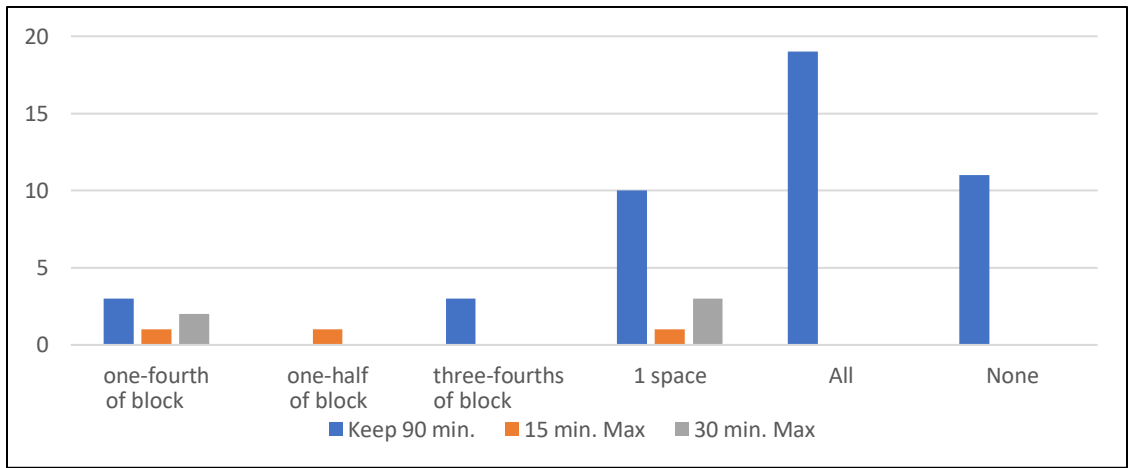


Question: About how many employees park in on-street spaces

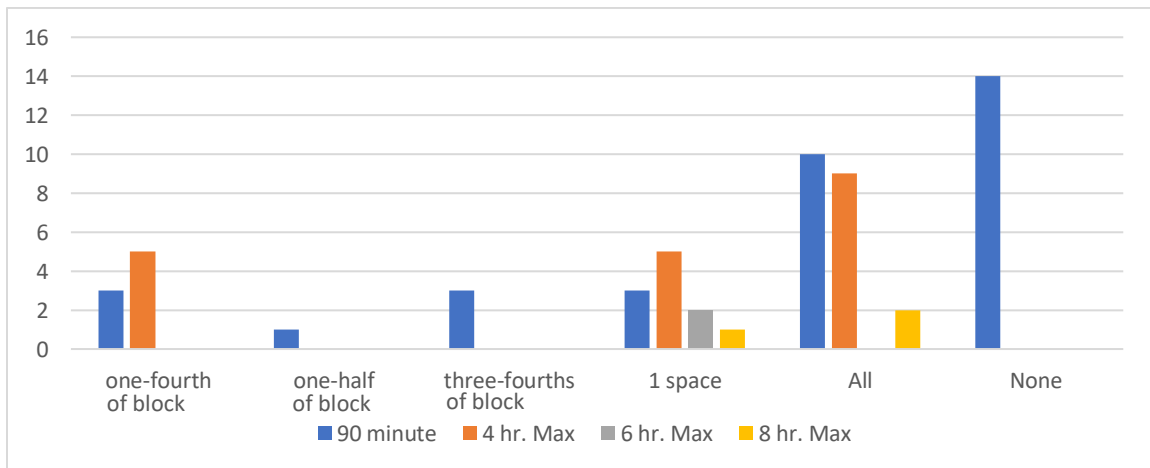


Short-Term/Long-Term Parking

Question: Which of the following short-term parking options on your side of the block would best help your business/property? How many of each of these types of short-term parking would best help your business/property?

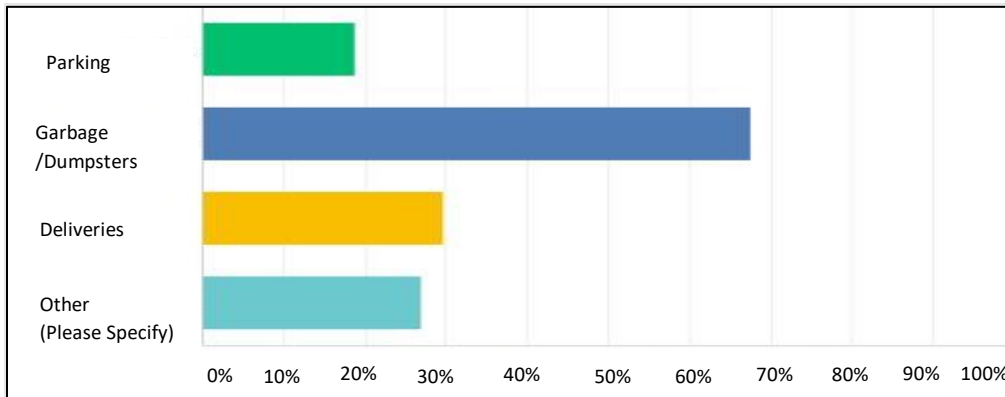


Question: Which of the following long-term parking options on your side of the block would best help your business/property? How many of each of these types of long-term parking would best help your business/property?



Alleyway Usage

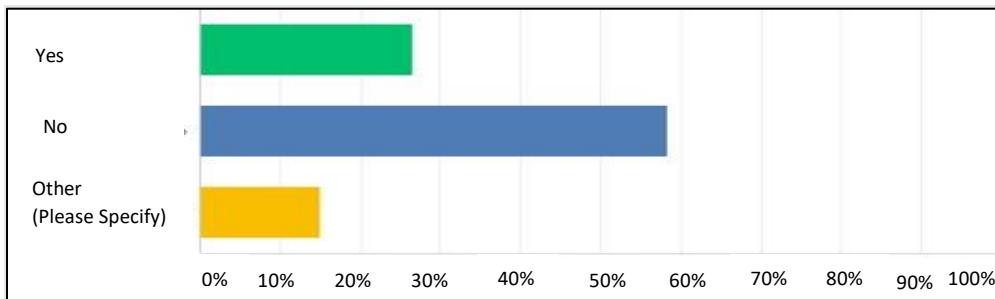
Question: Do you use the alley behind your business/property for any of the following uses?



Other common uses listed included loading and unloading supplies and repairs, and construction needs.

Main Street Traffic Lanes

Question: Should the City reduce Main Street to one lane rather than keeping it at two lanes of traffic?

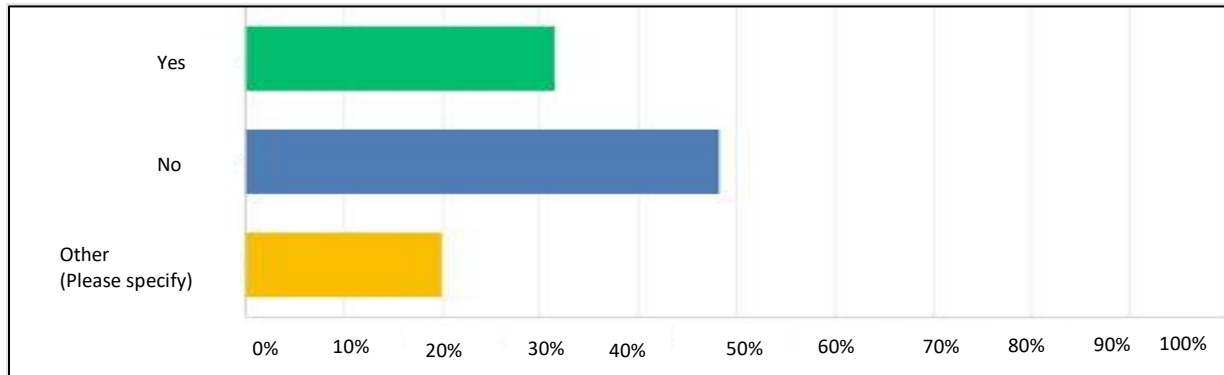


See below for comments from survey participants who selected the response "Other"

- Unsure
- Love to see a pedestrian walking mall with tables, art, fun bike racks and more outdoor seating for restaurants. But, if not, 1 lane sounds good to me.
- If reduced to one lane, would that mean that parking would be diagonal instead of parallel?
- Make it two-way traffic again.
- One lane with "standing" lane for delivery.
- Yes, and make all the cross streets loading zones. In any, case CENTER ST. especially on the first few blocks coming into downtown from the north needs to be one lane. There is plenty of space to keep the bus lane, possibly even put a loading zone on that side of the street, turn the east side into angled parking, and keep the handicap parking spaces and turn lane intact.
- I love that idea but what about deliveries if it's just 1 lane? So many of us have them double park and just run it in quickly.
- Not really sure, not my expertise.
- Haven't seen designs for what this would look like but if it helped to increase parking then think it would be a good idea.

Parking Meters/Pay Stations

Question: Do you think the City should install parking meters/pay stations and make the City parking decks free?



Here are the responses 12 respondents left if they choose other:

- Allow 2 hours free in the deck.
- No meters. Our clients from Champaign Urbana are ecstatic there are no meters to plug. Heard from one that a friend of theirs had a business in Champaign and had to add Sunday hours because their shoppers refused to plug a meter and only wanted to shop on Mondays when meter parking wasn't enforced. Hate to see that and I won't be open on Sundays either. Free parking decks would make my pocketbook smile after paying \$100 for 2 spaces for almost 20 years. Not sure how many shoppers/restaurant goers use the deck. Despite the lower level being free for 4 hours I hear people prefer to circle the blocks until they find a spot on the street. That is unless they have a fear of parallel parking.
- I don't think they should be free but it would be a great option if business owners or employees could purchase a parking permit to park in any spot for the day. Especially if the business doesn't have an alley or back parking lot, they can park in.
- I'm not sure.
- Undecided.
- have no idea how you would do it but it would be best if residential would not use street parking. It's been said that there aren't that many more apartments or condos than in the past. I don't believe that but let's say it's true. What I do know from being in business downtown since 82 is that there's a lot more people in said apartment or condo than there used to be, resulting in more parking spots being used.
- Only if they are smart meters that tie to a phone app. It's the only way this is going to work and provide an easy way to deal with the meters for the citizens. Maybe free on the weekends? Some bigger cities do that too.
- I think we add the pay stations to the deck so people only pay for what the time they use. But I also have a parking pass, and I think we should keep those active as well. I would hate to invest in meters, when there are simpler and more cost-effective ways to handle parking headaches. People understand pay stations in garages. Another option could be a few meters on side streets that have 4-hour options.
- Maybe. I think more people need to know about the times the parking decks are free such as 4 hours and on weekends.
- Right now, the parking decks are a safety hazard, I think maybe in the future once there is a new parking deck built this would be a good idea. My personal opinion is having shortened parking times (with a mix of longer parking times) in the heart of downtown. When you get farther away from the main strip the time you can park gets longer.
- Make both free.
- Possibly?