

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

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10/12/2010
MVB

Date: October 12, 2010

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Brian S. Ludicke, Planning Director

Subject: Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Compass Blueprint Demonstration Project-Downtown Parking Management Strategy

Recommendation:

Adopt **Resolution No. 10-68**, authorizing the City Manager or his designee to apply for a SCAG Compass Blueprint Demonstration Project to prepare a parking management strategy for Downtown Lancaster.

Fiscal Impact: Staff time necessary to participate in study.

Background: The Southern California Association of Governments has previously adopted a long-term guide for growth within the Southern California area known as the Compass Blueprint 2% Strategy approach. This strategy focuses on encouraging the development of mixed-use, transit-oriented development on 2% of the developed land area in Southern California on sites that could accommodate them, such as areas near transit stations and traditional town and city centers. Studies have concluded that land use changes on just this 2% of land area would have tangible results at the regional level in reducing vehicle miles traveled and related reductions in air emissions.

The purpose of the Compass Blueprint Demonstration Projects program is to assist local agencies in undertaking necessary actions to help implement the Compass Blueprint strategy. SCAG has designated the area near both the Metrolink Station and Downtown as a 2% Strategy area, and the City is currently undertaking significant actions consistent with this approach. The parking supply and demand in the downtown area was analyzed in 2006 as part of the Downtown Lancaster Specific Plan. Significant residential, commercial, and entertainment development and re-use has occurred since then, and the downtown area is emerging as a mixed-use, “park once” district. Further, the redesign of Lancaster Boulevard has modified the parking availability in the downtown area. Staff believes that, with the changes in the downtown area, it is an appropriate time to evaluate the revised parking situation and consider potential parking management strategies for the long-term development of the downtown area. This is an appropriate demonstration project for the Compass Blueprint program, because effective parking management can help reduce vehicle miles traveled and related air emissions, as well as ensure adequate provision for the regional transit from the City’s Metrolink Station.

BSL/mc

Attachment:

Resolution No. 10-68