

Parking in the Business District of Venice Florida

Background

During the tourist season 2018 / 2019 I received several inquiries and complaints regarding parking from business owner / operators and citizens. The reconstruction / beautification project in the business district was a factor; however the population growth in unincorporated Sarasota County is also a major factor that will continue in coming years. Parking in front of, or near the business that people want to visit is the most common complaint.

Observation

On street parking on Venice Avenue and Centennial Park appear to be the most desirable to many visitors. These two locations are most commonly known and in proximity to the business on Tampa, Venice and Miami Avenues. While the parking is completely full in Centennial Park and along Venice Avenue I have observed the parking lot behind Venice Theater less than half full. The Parking lot around the Hamilton Building had no vehicles. I also observed the parking lot at the Venice Community Center to have eighty to ninety percent of the spaces available. Venice Theater parking is an extra block to walk and the Hamilton Building parking may be two blocks while the Venice Community Center is three blocks to walk. These parking alternatives may not work for visitors with mobility issues however for many visitors these locations are a good option.

Suggested Actions

Signage to direct visitors to alternative parking may help to relieve some of the frustration in identifying a suitable location. There are no way finding signs for parking posted along east or west bound Venice Avenue, on way finding signs on Miami, Nokomis, Nassau Avenues. Three way finding signs are on Harbor Drive. There is an excellent sign on Tampa Avenue just west of Tamiami Trail that could be a template to be used around the City to direct visitors to alternative parking locations.



PUBLIC
PARKING
←



PARKING
VENETIAN
WATERWAY
PARK
→

VABI
OFFICE
PARKING
→

SANTA MARIA

BELLA COSTA

F220
G210

BELLA COSTA

FDC

P →
PARKING

PARKING
VENETIAN
WATERWAY
PARK
→

OFFICE
PARKING
→

SANTA MARIA ST

BELLA COSTA

BELLA COSTA



RV / BUS PARKING ONLY
(NO OVERNIGHT PARKING)
→
Venice, FL
Section 46-184
Ordinance No. 2018-02

