

TOWN COUNCIL



STAFF REPORT Department of Growth Management

MEETING DATE:	December 8, 2015
PROJECT:	Resolution Amending the Time Restricted Parking On Calhoun Street and at DuBois Park on Lawton and Lawrence Streets from a Maximum of 2-Hour Parking to a Maximum of 3-Hour Parking from 9:00AM-5:00PM Monday through Friday
PROJECT MANAGER:	Kendra Lelie, AICP Director, Growth Management Department

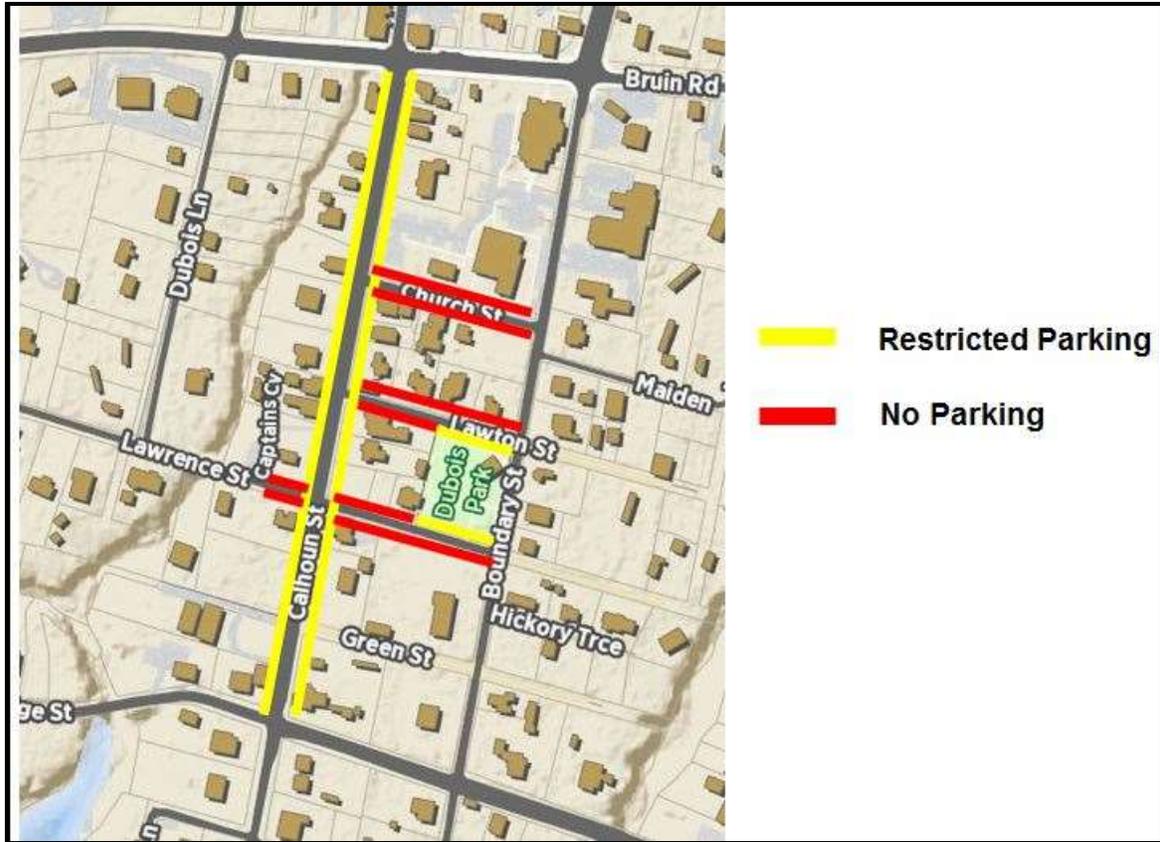
REQUEST: Town Council approval of a Resolution amending the time restricted parking on Calhoun Street between May River Road and Bridge Street and at DuBois Park on Lawton and Lawrence Streets from a maximum of 2-hour parking to maximum of 3-hour parking from 9:00am to 5:00pm Monday through Friday, in accordance with Section 26-78 of the Town Code.

BACKGROUND: Based on community feedback at the October 20, 2015 Town Council Workshop and best parking practices, Staff recommended a 2-hour time restriction on Calhoun Street to help encourage greater turnover of parking spaces. Town Council approved a Resolution at the November 10, 2015 Town Council meeting authorizing the following:

1. Establish time restricted parking (maximum of 2 hours, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) on Calhoun Street and for the head-in parking at Dubois Park provided Staff help facilitate businesses and other organizations identify parking areas for overflow parking and execution of the necessary shared parking agreements;
2. Develop a resident parking sticker program for residents of Calhoun Street allowing parking in the time restricted areas; and
3. Establish no parking zones on Lawrence Street, Lawton Street and Church Street (with the exception of the head-in parking at DuBois Park).

Based upon feedback from the Old Town Merchant's Society meeting on November 11, 2015 and from some Calhoun Street businesses regarding the concern with the approved 2-hour time restriction, Staff conducted a door-to-door survey of businesses located on Calhoun Street to determine if a 3-hour parking restricted would be preferable to the approved 2-hour parking restriction. Of the 16 businesses Staff was able to contact, the overwhelming majority (94%) agreed that a 3-hour parking restriction was preferable to the approved 2-hour parking restriction.

ANALYSIS: The increase in the maximum time restriction will encourage greater commerce within the Old Town Historic District as the additional hour will give patrons the opportunity to have an extended experience dining and shopping without the need to move a vehicle. The following map depicts the time restricted and no parking areas:



NEXT STEPS: Town Staff will incorporate the revised parking restrictions into the sign package on the impacted streets.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution to Establish Time Restricted Parking in Certain Areas of Old Town Bluffton Historic District

RESOLUTION

AMENDING THE TIME RESTRICTED PARKING ON CALHOUN STREET AND AT
DUBOIS PARK ON LAWTON AND LAWRENCE STREETS FROM A MAXIMUM OF 2-
HOUR PARKING TO A MAXIMUM OF 3-HOUR PARKING FROM 9:00AM - 5:00PM
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

WHEREAS, the Town of Bluffton Town Council (the “Town Council”) adopted the Old Town Master Plan on July 12, 2006 through Ordinance 2006-17 which established specific goals including providing adequate parking opportunities within the Old Town Historic District; and

WHEREAS, in January 2014, the Town of Bluffton entered into a contract with Thomas & Hutton Engineering to develop a Calhoun Street and Adjacent Area Study to establish a public infrastructure master plan and policy guidelines; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2015, Marc Orlando, Town Manager sent letters to business owners within the Calhoun Street Promenade development in the Old Town Historic District informing them of the shared parking agreement between Calhoun Street Promenade and the First Baptist Church and encouraging business owners to work with their employees to take advantage of the shared parking provided for in the agreement with the intent of allowing for greater turnover of parking spaces in the Calhoun Street Promenade development area; and

WHEREAS, on January 22, 2015, Marc Orlando, Town Manager also sent letters to business owners within the Old Town Historic District requesting that they and their employees consider parking in the less utilized parking areas on Bluffton Road, May River Road, Goethe Road and Oyster Factory Park to help ensure that prime parking spaces are available for business patrons and residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council adopted an amendment to the Unified Development Ordinance requiring an increase of off-street parking spaces for commercial uses on March 10, 2015 through Ordinance 2015-05; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council held a Workshop on October 20, 2015 and provided direction on certain immediate action items focused on improving parking conditions including the implementation of time restricted parking in certain areas within the Old Town Historic District; and

WHEREAS, per Section 26-78 of the Town Municipal Code, the Town Council has the authority to establish no parking zones, restricted parking zones, parallel zones, loading zones, handicapped parking zones, parking meter zones and other reasonable parking regulations.

WHEREAS, on November 10, 2015, the Town Council approved a Resolution authorizing, among other things, the establishment of a restricted parking zone for Calhoun Street beginning at the intersection with May River Road and continuing south to the intersection at Bridge Street and for the head-in parking areas located at Dubois Park on Lawton Street and Lawrence Street which limits parking to two (2) hours between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to amend certain portions of the restricted parking zone to increase the time limit from 2 to 3 hours.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF BLUFFTON TOWN COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amendment of the restricted parking zone for Calhoun Street beginning at the intersection with May River Road and continuing south to the intersection at Bridge Street and for the head-in parking areas located at Dubois Park on Lawton Street and Lawrence Street from a two-hour to a three-hour parking limit between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ADOPTION,
SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED AS OF THIS _____ DAY OF ____, 2015.

Lisa Sulka, Mayor
Town of Bluffton, South Carolina

ATTEST:

Sandra Lunceford, Town Clerk
Town of Bluffton, South Carolina