MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2016
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SUMMIT

Distributed: 5/10/16
Approved: 5/17/16

The meeting was called to order by Council President Mike McTernan at 7:30 PM. The City Clerk then read the following notice:

"Adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the City Clerk in the preparation of the Council Annual Meeting Notice of Closed Session and Regular Meetings, dated January 6, 2015 which set forth the date, time, and place of this meeting and by properly posting such notice and forwarding the notice to those designated newspapers and the persons requesting meeting notices. Please be further advised that the FIRE EXITS are to my RIGHT your left, and at the BACK OF THE ROOM.

Please be further advised that the City has an Assistive Listening System for the hearing impaired. We have three (3) assistive hearing devices. If anyone needs them, please raise your hand and the device will be brought to you. Please return them to the City Clerk or leave them with the Police Dispatcher."

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Council Members Hurley, Lizza, Ogden, Rubino, Sun and Council President McTernan

ABSENT: Councilman Naidu

Also in attendance were Mayor Radest and staff members Rogers, Cascais, Evers, Gerba, Licatese, Weck and Cruz.

Minutes of this meeting are recorded on CD # 2016-09 - 7:35:59 pm - 9:56:02 pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Zachary Brooks

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Budget Workshop - March 31, 2016
- Regular and Closed Session Minutes - April 5, 2016

Minutes of meetings listed above were approved on motion of Councilman Hurley, duly carried by a unanimous vote.

REPORTS

Items/issues noted hereunder, if any, reflect those recommending and/or needing action by City department(s) or at a future council meeting.

- Mayor, City Administrator and Council President (Summit Historical Minute)

Summit Historical Minute – The history of Edwin Scott Votey, as prepared by Summit High School Student Tim Childers and presented by fellow Summit High School Student Gabi Friedman is hereto attached.

PRESENTATIONS

Mayor's Proclamation – Autism Awareness Month – Presented by Mayor Radest to Zachary Brooks, Summit Resident and Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School Student.

Zachary Brooks then read a prepared statement which is hereto attached.

"State of the Arboretum" - Frank Juliano, Executive Director of the Reeves-Reed Arboretum read a prepared statement, which is hereto attached.

"Go Green Fair" Event at the Summit Transfer Station - *(Postponed)*

Concept of "Parklets" – Phillip Abramson, Managing Director of Topology NJ, LLC, gave a PowerPoint presentation, which is hereto attached. Mr. Abramson then responded to questions from Council.

Councilwoman Lizza recommended that Mr. Abramson make the same presentation at a meeting of Summit Downtown Inc. to introduce the concept.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Wilson Park - Kim Leonard, 81 Beekman Road, expressed her feelings of confusion as to how the process of public notification works and asked when the public would have an opportunity to speak to the park proposal.

Judith Leblein Josephs, Director of the Department of Community Programs, commented as follows:

1. Explained the process and the Council's involvement.
2. Briefly described the proposed capital project and how it was initiated and discussed at a Planning Board meeting with proper notification.
3. Advised of the public meeting scheduled for April 25 where interested parties could participate in a public discussion of the proposal.

In answer to questions from Ms. Leonard regarding the results of the public meeting on April 25, Council President McTernan explained the process whereby Council could make a recommendation based on the gathering of public input.

Ms. Leonard shared her concerns regarding traffic safety and suggested that Councilmembers observe the "pick up" traffic at Wilson School.

Ben Bowen, 10 Hillview Terrace, commented as follows:

1. Commended the governing body for suspending the process once public concerns were raised.
2. Understands the need for more playing fields.
3. Shared thoughts regarding use of the park for activities other than sports.
4. Described traffic and parking concerns relative to the streets surrounding the park.

Patricia Michaels, 112 Beekman Road, commented as follows:

1. Asked to see a copy of the 2008 Wilson Report.
2. Questioned the need for a turf field.
3. Wants to see a thoughtful plan for public consideration.

Ted Chou, Oakley Avenue, commented as follows:

1. Spoke of the history of the Wilson Family and its wishes for the use of the property.
2. Felt that the proposal seemed inconsistent with the Master Plan.
3. Felt there was a need to understand the use of the property before proceeding further.

Paul Galligan, 47 Hillcrest Avenue, Summit Junior Baseball board member, explained that his discussions with the Department of Community Programs regarding the possible use of Wilson Park were to address the shortage of playing fields.

In answer to a question from Kevin Mack, 690 Springfield Avenue, as to the possibility of approving part of a plan instead of the whole plan, Council President McTernan explained that Council would make the final decision based upon input from other bodies that advise Council.

Council President McTernan called for a short recess at 9:00 pm and reconvened at 9:05 pm.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR HEARINGS

The Council President called for a hearing of the following ordinance(s), which the City Clerk read by title.

Number	Title	Introduction Date
	FINANCE/PERSONNEL	
16-3106	**ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)** *(Establish CAP Bank)*	04/5/16

No one wished to be heard and the hearing was declared closed.

Proof of publication of the introduction of this ordinance, published in the Union County Local Source of April 7, 2016, was made part of the record.

GENERAL SERVICES

16-3107	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-8, PARKING, SUBSECTION 7-8.4 STOPPING OR STANDING DURING CERTAIN HOURS ON CERTAIN STREETS** *(No Stopping or Standing - South Side of Springfield Avenue to Kent Place Blvd.)*	04/5/16

No one wished to be heard and the hearing was declared closed.

Proof of publication of the introduction of this ordinance, published in the Union County Local Source of April 7, 2016, was made part of the record.

RESOLUTION

SAFETY

37323 Minor Amendment - Ordinance #16-3108 - Enforcement - DCS Division of Code Administration

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Ogden
SECONDER:	McTernan
AYES:	Hurley, Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Naidu

ORDINANCE FOR HEARING

Number	Title	Introduction Date
SAFETY		
16-3108	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER XVIII, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS SECTION 18.5, MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS,** as amended by Resolution No. 37323 *(Removal of Ice and Snow)*	04/5/16

Councilman Hurley stated that while he appreciated the changes made to the ordinance regarding enforcement, he had concerns regarding the increase in the fine and the notification process, noting that storms in recent years have been quite challenging.

No one else wished to be heard and the hearing was declared closed.

Proof of publication of the introduction of this ordinance, published in the Union County Local Source of April 7, 2016, was made part of the record.

RESOLUTIONS

(Resolutions, which were not identified on the agenda as same, do not appear in the minutes in the actual order in which they were addressed at the meeting, but under the proper committee heading after those that were on the agenda. Those with the name of another committee in italics after it indicate the other committee might have had some input.)

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following resolution(s) and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

LAW

37324 Minor Amendment - Ordinance #16-3105 - Restaurant Ordinance – Definition *(from the floor)*

In response to a question from Councilman Hurley regarding the removal of the term "Retail Food Establishment," City Solicitor Cruz explained his recommendation. He further explained that the amendment was necessary so that this section of the Code would be consistent with the Development Regulations Ordinance (DRO).

RESULT:	**APPROVED [5 TO 1]**
MOVER:	Ogden
SECONDER:	McTernan
AYES:	Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
NAYS:	Hurley
ABSENT:	Naidu

ORDINANCE(S) FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following ordinance(s) which was (were) individually read by title by the City Clerk for final passage and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

Number	Title	Introduction Date
LAW		
16-3105	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING 4-19, RESTAURANTS & PUBLIC PLACES WHERE FOOD & BEVERAGES SOLD, CONSUMED** as amended by Resolution #37324 *(Various updates)*	03/15/16

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [5 TO 1]**
MOVER:	Ogden
SECONDER:	McTernan
AYES:	Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
NAYS:	Hurley
ABSENT:	Naidu

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

16-3106 **ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK (N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14)** *(Establish CAP Bank)* 04/5/16

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Lizza
SECONDER:	Rubino
AYES:	Hurley, Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Naidu

GENERAL SERVICES

16-3107 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-8, PARKING, SUBSECTION 7-8.4 STOPPING OR STANDING DURING CERTAIN HOURS ON CERTAIN STREETS** *(No Stopping or Standing - South Side of Springfield Avenue to Kent Place Blvd.)* 04/5/16

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Hurley
SECONDER:	McTernan
AYES:	Hurley, Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Naidu

SAFETY

16-3108 **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER XVIII, STREETS AND SIDEWALKS SECTION 18.5, MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS**, as amended by Resolution No. 37323 *(Removal of Ice and Snow)* 04/5/16

RESULT:	**ADOPTED [5 TO 1]**
MOVER:	Ogden
SECONDER:	McTernan
AYES:	Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
NAYS:	Hurley
ABSENT:	Naidu

ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced, for first reading, the following ordinance(s) as it (they) came up for consideration during the meeting, which was (were) individually read by City Clerk Licatese and unanimously adopted by the vote indicated below and referred to the Law Committee for study and report with a hearing(s) scheduled as indicated under Hearing Date below.

Number	Title	Hearing Date
SAFETY		
16-3109	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER VII,L TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-8, PARKING, SUBSECTION 7-8.5, PARKING TIME LIMITED ON CERTAIN STREETS** *(Remove 2 hour Parking on Kent Place Blvd, between Norwood and Morris Avenues)*	05/3/16

RESULT:	**INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]**	**Next: 5/3/2016 7:30 PM**
MOVER:	Ogden	
SECONDER:	Lizza	
AYES:	Hurley, Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun	
ABSENT:	Naidu	

SAFETY		
16-3110	**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE, CHAPTER VII, TRAFFIC, SECTION 7-25 REGULATIONS FOR THE MOVEMENT AND THE PARKING OF TRAFFIC ON MUNICIPAL PROPERTY AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PROPERTY, SUBSECTION 7-25.3, PARKING RESTRICTIONS AT PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND BOARD OF EDUCATION PARKING LOTS.** *(Memorial Field Parking for Park Users Only During Park Operating Hours)*	05/3/16

RESULT:	**INTRODUCED [UNANIMOUS]**	**Next: 5/3/2016 7:30 PM**
MOVER:	Ogden	
SECONDER:	McTernan	
AYES:	Hurley, Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun	
ABSENT:	Naidu	

RESOLUTIONS

(Resolutions, which were not identified on the agenda as same, do not appear in the minutes in the actual order in which they were addressed at the meeting, but under the proper committee heading after those that were on the agenda. Those with the name of another committee in italics after it indicate the other committee might have had some input.)

The respective Committee Chairman, Committee member, or Councilmember, as indicated for the Committee, introduced the following resolution(s) and on motion, duly seconded and on roll call, unanimously adopted or adopted by the vote shown, if any:

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

37325 1. Introduce and Establish 2016 Special Improvement District Budget Hearing Date

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Lizza
SECONDER:	Rubino
AYES:	Hurley, Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Naidu

37326 2. Concur 2016 Board of School Estimate Certification of Required Funds

Councilwoman Lizza read from a prepared statement which is hereto attached.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Lizza
SECONDER:	Rubino
AYES:	Hurley, Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Naidu

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

37327 3. Authorize Schedule of School Levy Payments

37328 4. Continue Revised Minimum Standard Vendor Insurance Requirements

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

37329 1. Authorize Payment From Affordable Housing Trust Fund to Summit Housing Authority – Rehabilitation Project at 2 Weaver Street

37330 2. Declare Vacancy - Secretary II - Department of Community Services - Land Use Division

37331 3. Authorize Execution of Agreement with E-Consult Solutions - Mt. Laurel IV Services

GENERAL SERVICES

37332 1. Authorize State Contract Purchase - Playground Equipment for Summit Family Aquatic Center - $32,809.76

37333 2. Appoint Board of Health Member

WORKS

37334 1. Authorize 2016 Arbor Day Festivities

37335 2. Authorize Submission of the 2015 Recycling Tonnage Report

SAFETY

37336 Declare Vacancies – Police Department - Sergeant and Police Officer

CONSENT AGENDA

Staff reports are attached, as appropriate, when resolution is not self-explanatory. Matters authorizing action, licenses, or granting permission have met all department qualifications.

RESULT:	**APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER:	Hurley
SECONDER:	Sun
AYES:	Hurley, Lizza, McTernan, Ogden, Rubino, Sun
ABSENT:	Naidu

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

37337 Authorize Purple Ribbons Display - American Cancer Society - Relay for Life

GENERAL SERVICES

37338 1. Authorize Refunds - Department of Community Programs

37339 2. Authorize Bid Advertisement - Tatlock Park Bleacher Renovation Project

37340 3. Authorize Bid Advertisement - Tier Garage Structural Repairs and Elevator Modernization

LAW

37341 1. Authorize Municipal Court Administrator Attendance - Municipal Court Administrators Association of New Jersey Annual Spring Conference & Burlington County Court Administrators Annual Spring Conference

37342 2. Amend 2016 Council Committee Assignments - Appoint Safety Committee Member

WORKS

37343 Authorize Bid Advertisement - Professional Cleaning Services 2016-2018

FINANCE/PERSONNEL

37344 1. Authorize Redemption - Tax Sale Certificate #14-13

37345 2. Authorize Parking Refunds - Summit SmartCard, Prepaid Parking, and Overnight Parking Permits

37346 3. Authorize Payment of Bills - $1,075,935.53

COUNCIL MEMBERS' COMMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Items/issues noted hereunder, if any, reflect those recommending and/or needing action by City department(s) or at a future council meeting which are not already being addressed by a committee.

None

ADJOURNMENT REGULAR MEETING

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalia M. Licatese, City Clerk

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter - Mayor Radest, re Board of Health Appointment

REFERRED TO COUNCIL AS A WHOLE

MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

1. Summit Historical Minute - Prepared by Tim Childers and Presented by Gabi Friedman, Summit High School Students.
2. Autism Awareness Month - Zachary Brook, Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School Student
3. State of the Reeves-Reed Arboretum - Frank Juliano, Executive Director - Reeves-Reed Arboretum
4. Concept of "Parklets" Presentation - Phillip Abramson, Managing Director - Topology NJ, LLC
5. Statement, re Resolution to Concur with 2016 Board of School Estimate - Certification of Required Funds - Councilwoman Lizza

Summit Historical Minute
Edwin Scott Votey
Prepared by: Tim Childers
Presented by: Gabi Friedman

19 April 2016

Historical Minute presented at City Council -

Hello everyone. My name is Tim Childers/ Gabi Friedman, I am a senior at Summit High School, and in the next minute I intend to shed light on the life of one of Summit's most famous residents, Edwin Scott Votey. Born in 1856 in Ovid, NY, Mr. Votey took a particular liking to musical instruments as a child and at the age of twenty-one began selling organs throughout Western New York. By 1886, Votey had obtained several instrument patents and launched the personal production of organs and pipes through his newly established enterprise, The Votey Organ Company. Nearly a year after his company's birth, Votey invented the Pianola, or the "piano player." The Pianola was a large cabinet standing in front of the piano that was operated by suction from the pedals and produced a transcript of the music on perforated paper. By 1919, the Pianola started to outsell the piano in the United States, and pieces by many famous pianists had been transcribed on paper. In 1922, the original Pianola was donated to the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Walter Hough, the curator in charge of the musical instruments department at the Smithsonian stated, "The invention of the Pianola has added so much happiness to humankind that we cannot fail to be thankful to its originators." The New York Times said that Votey was regarded as "the inventive genius of the automatic music industry," and has since become a near household name. After moving to Summit at the turn of the century, Mr. Votey became an active Summit citizen, living in the town for nearly thirty years. He served as president of the Summit Common Council from 1904 to 1905 and was the director of the Trust Company of Summit. His grandson, also named Edwin Votey, was a councilman from 1966 to 1974, and was an integral part of the creation of the municipal golf course and pool. It is safe to say that we can add Edwin Votey to the list of Summit residents that have contributed to human happiness and invention.

Zachary Brooks
Statement
Autism Awareness Month

Common Council Meeting
April 19, 2016

Thank you for inviting me here this evening and for this important proclamation. It means so much to me and to many others.

I am pleased and proud to let you know that many Summit businesses and organizations are supporting Autism Awareness Month. All those supporting this effort have been displaying signs while some have also been using social media to help spread awareness.

Some businesses have been donating a percentage of their sales from either World Autism Day or from the whole month or with special in store promotions.

We should all be proud of how our community has come together.

It is important to let people know autism affects 1 in 68 children in the United States and 1 in 41 in New Jersey. Those affected by autism are not all the same. Some are

Hat Tavern

Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School

Lincoln Hubbard School

Lois Schneider Realtor

Loya Loft Yoga

Momentum Cycling and Fitness

Mondo

The Office Restaurant

The Papery

Privado Hair Salon

Silver Lining

St. Teresa's Church

Summit High School

Summit YMCA

The Tea Pot

Tito's Burritos

The UPS Store

The Visual Arts Center of New Jersey

Wellness Studio

Willow Street

Woodward Properties

And, of course, Summit City Hall and Sweet nothings.

There are also many kind individuals who are showing their support with personal donations, patronizing the participating businesses and organizations and with social media posts.

All of this support means awareness for autism and recognition for the seriousness of this disorder. It also means that Summit is an amazing community giving back and coming together in support of individuals and issues.

We should all be proud to be living in Summit.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone here this evening, City Hall, Common Council, Mayor Radest, the business community, local organizations, schools and the people of Summit for supporting me and Autism Awareness Month.

Thank you.

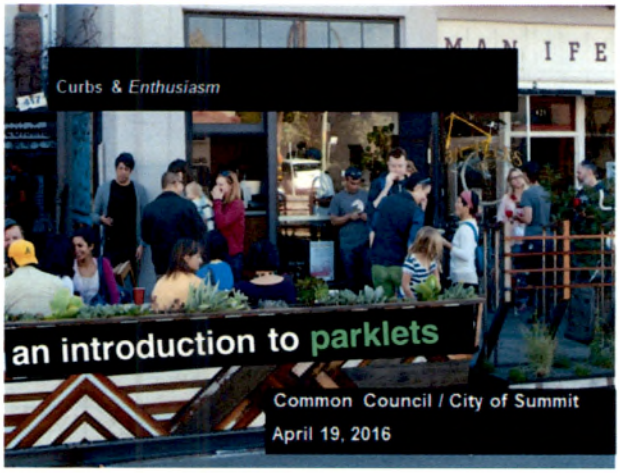
Frank Juliano, Executive Director
Reeves-Reed Arboretum

April 19, 2016

STATE OF THE ARBORETUM

- Public garden equals public support. Thanks to the increased interest, participation and support for RRA, we've experienced significant growth.
- Over 100,000 visitors in 2015. Up from 28,000 in 2009. This is a result of a passionate and hardworking team of trustees and staff whose main objective is to provide the highest level of service and programming possible.
- Because of the increase in visitors:
  a) We have created a visitors center which is scheduled to open this Sunday, Daffodil Day. The center will provide our guests with a professional visitor experience offering orientation as well as information. A pair of iPad Pros will offer an interactive experience where visitors can view information on upcoming events, what's in bloom, historical information and maps.
  b) We will also be launching a new, modern and fully responsive website, thanks in part of a grant from the NJ Historical Commission.

- New growth gives rise to new consideration:
  a) Accessibility. It has been only 25 years since the Federal gov't enacted the Americans for Disabilities Act, and as a society, I feel that collectively we've not fully embraced these concerns in our everyday consciousness. To that end, the Arboretum has engaged a couple of landscape architects to submit proposals about improving circulation and accessibility on our grounds for all our visitors, while acknowledging and honoring our historical legacy. Once we're ready to move forward on this, we will surely engage with our partners here at the City of Summit for input and guidance.
  b) Parking is an ever growing issue and one of concern for all of us here in Summit. I've had informal conversations with council members in the past about this. I have a suggestion that I'd like to put forth to start a future conversation. This would be a one-year pilot program that would involve community constituents like the Arboretum, the Visual Arts Center, the Summit Downtown group, the Chamber of Commerce, Overlook Hospital, and the local schools, working with the City of Summit to provide a hop-on, hop-off weekend jitney loop service that would originate at a central off-site parking site (perhaps Broad Street lot). Perhaps the City of Summit could donate the use of the senior van, or other groups in town such as Celgene, the Grand Summit Hotel, Merck, or Overlook Hospital, who offer regular weekday van service to their employees and guests, could provide the use of a weekend vehicle, and the constituent groups I previously mentioned would cover the operating costs. After a year's trial, we would then review the success of the program based upon usage and surveys, and make an informed decision as to how to proceed with the issue of parking and traffic. Similar project like this have worked in cities like Corning, NY where a downtown jitney loops through the shopping areas, stops at the museum and other cultural sites, and at the main hotel downtown. This is just one suggestion, but I'd love to be able to work together with you all in coming up with an equitable and viable solution.



How might we...

enhance the downtown
create positive buzz
support downtown business
strengthen Summit's 'brand'

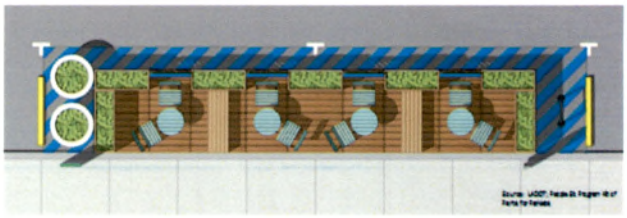
...within the next 30 days?

pärk-lət *(noun)*

A sidewalk extension that provides more space and amenities for people using the street.

"Let's go shopping and grab lunch in the parklet."

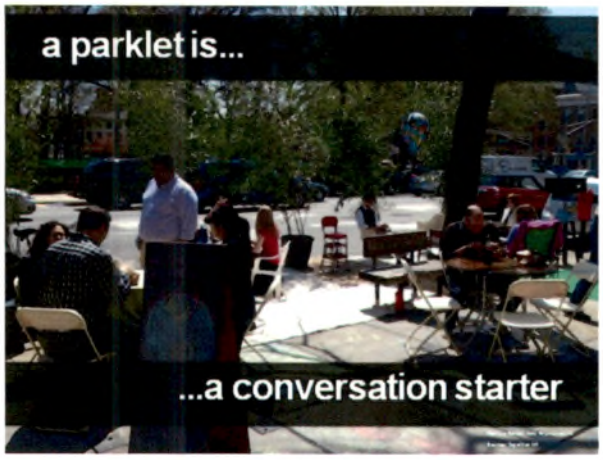
key components:

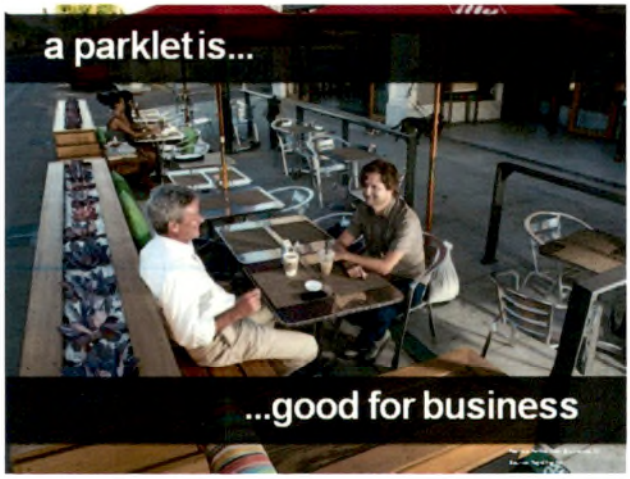


safety greenery seating

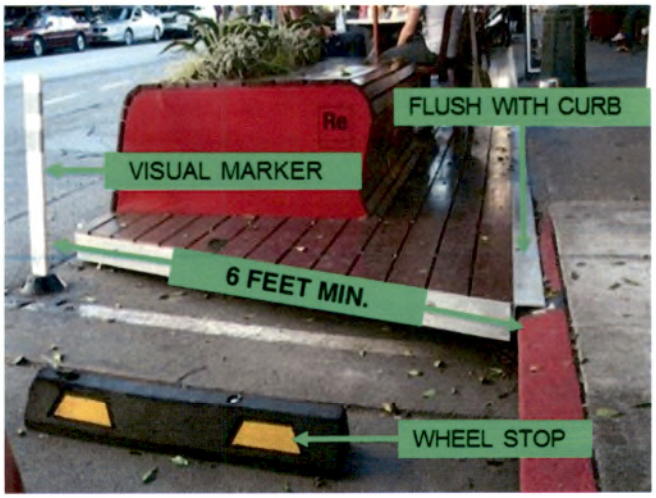
a parklet is...

...a small park

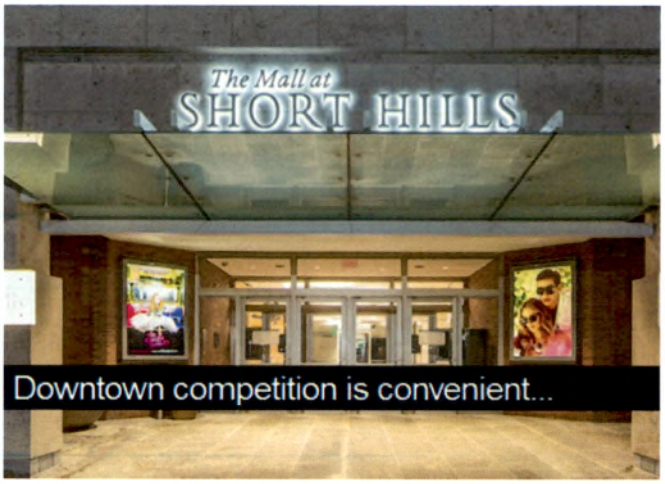




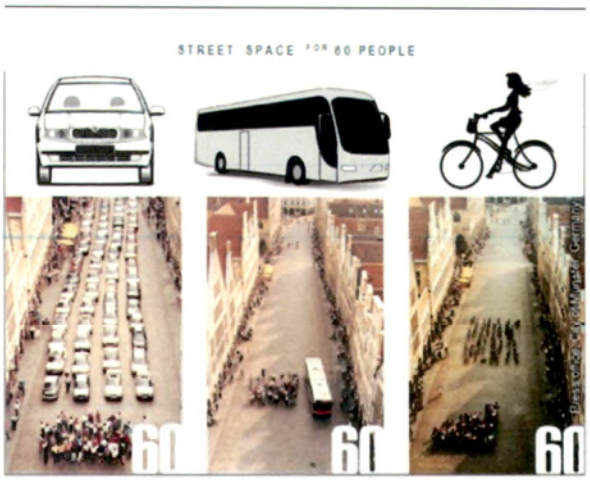
What are the safety features?



What's the point?



The Mall at
SHORT HILLS
Downtown competition is convenient...


STREET SPACE FOR 60 PEOPLE
60
60
60

5 FEET
10 FEET

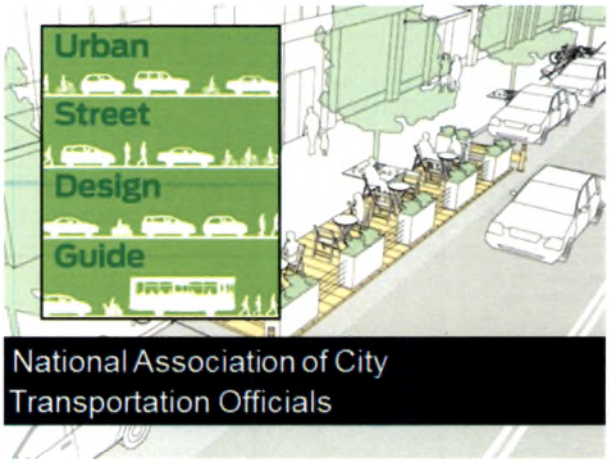
Who pays?

Is this okay?

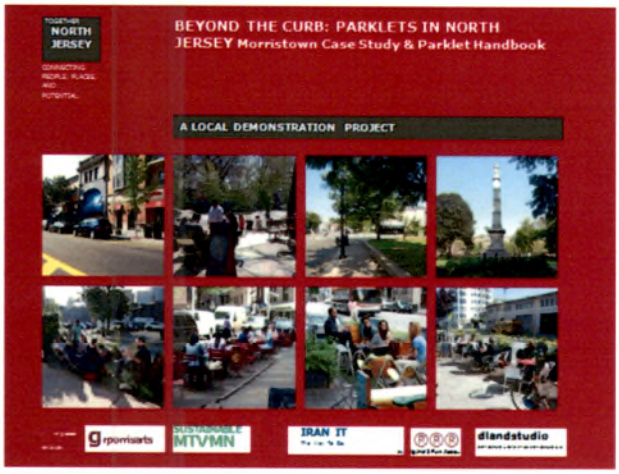
Rahway, NJ (2014)

Princeton, NJ (2015)

NYC Pedestrian Plaza

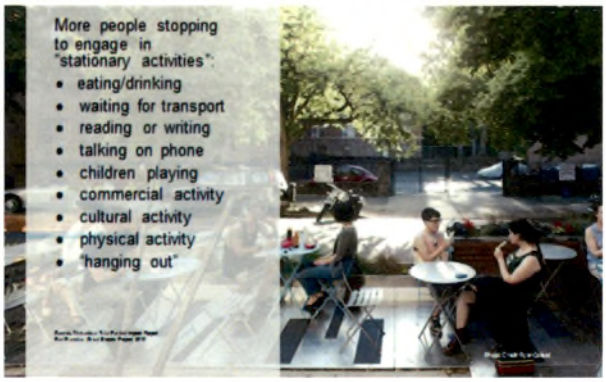


National Association of City Transportation Officials



impacts: pedestrian traffic

impacts: pedestrian behavior



impacts: perception

- quality of pedestrian environment

choosing a site:

- identify host/partner business
- on appropriate pedestrian-friendly retail corridor
- low speed corridors only (25 mph or less)
- at least one parking space away from corners or active driveways

criteria:

- meets established design criteria
- enhancement of streetscape quality
- location (parklet likely to be well used and active)
- community support
- capacity of sponsor to maintain and steward the parklet
- potential conflict with future city streetscape or maintenance initiatives
- compliance with technical and accessibility provisions

Prepared Statement from Councilwoman Lizza
Read at the April 19, 2016 Council Meeting

Resolution To Concur with 2016 BOSE Certif of Req Funds (#4182)

This resolution confirms Council's concurrence with the Board of School Estimate's certification of funds required in 2016 for the public schools. The tax levy for 2016 is $62, 366, 792, which is comprised of ½ of last year's school requirements from Jan-June and ½ of the 2016-17 school year. This translates to a calendar year increase of 1.87% (and slightly smaller increase of the tax rate taking into account an increase in the tax base.)

The BOSE met twice and voted unanimously to approve the BOE-recommended budget on March 29. The BOSE meeting can be seen on HometowneTV's website and details of the school budget are available on the BOE website. The 2016-17 school budget is a 1.95% increase over the prior year.

The Summit community has been, and continues to be, very supportive of our schools. Approx. $40 million of capital spending has been approved by Council in recent years, including $17 million just two years ago We are all proud of the diverse accomplishments of our students and the breadth of their education, which is at an *all-time high*—from academics, to performance and studio arts, to athletics and to a tremendous number of extra-curricular enrichment activities.

There's a tremendous amount of time and effort behind the preparation and approval of the school budget. As the Council liaison to the schools for two years and a member of the BOSE for two years, I have attended many BOE meetings where it is very apparent that each of our BOE members is engaged, inquisitive and dedicated to their role. Summit is extremely fortunate to have such an involved group of long-term volunteers who lend their expertise and their interest to help guide our schools. I'd like to recognize their efforts, along with the school administrators, in keeping the school budget increase below the 2% cap. BOE President Katherine Kalin stated that the budget sustains our commitment to excellence, has absorbed some large costs, and allowed us to add, stop, review, and change some programs and services that we believe will help us function better. BOE Operations Chair and BOSE member David Dietze stated that the budget balances carefully the need and desire to pay for a superior education for all our children yet recognizes the Board of Ed's mission to exercise fiscal prudence. Also, congratulations to Mr. June Chang on his first year as superintendent. He is inspiring our students and staff with creative thinking and involves parents and our community to educate our children in a fast-changing and multi-faceted environment.

Thank you.

Sandra R. Lizza
Councilwoman, Ward II
City of Summit