

# Report for Fish Creek Parking Survey

## Response Counts



---

Total: 36

# 1. What is your greatest concern with parking in Fish Creek?



Count	Response
1	1. Not enough parking. 2. Employees of other businesses using valuable street parking to park all day rather than parking a few blocks away and walking a short distance to work.
1	Can't see past cars parked near intersections. ie: making left turn from Spruce onto 42north.
1	Employees parking in front of other businesses.
1	Lack of street parking, insufficient signage directing visitors to existing parking lots (i.e. behind the town center).
1	Large events are difficult for parking spaces. Also, traffic slows when cars are waiting for spots on the main drag. Accidents are inches away.
1	No concerns
1	Not enough parking in central FC. Look into hidden underground parking under or near Founder's Square. Expand existing parking behind the post office and use signage to let people know it is there.

**Count    Response**

1	Not enough parking when in season.
1	Not enough parking, deterring customers from stopping
1	Not enough. Employees/ owners parking in precious customer parking spots. Not enough visible parking - not enough signage directing people to where there is parking.
1	Parking for restaurants and foot traffic in downtown Fish Creek.
1	Removing spots from main street
1	There is no problem except for the horse bistros parking in the beach lot. Let them build their own lot.
1	That it stays free and no parking structures are built.
1	That parking is linked with what type of business that an individual or organization operates.
1	That there is not enough.
1	That we don't maximize the existing parking in town. The church and high school have huge lots that don't get the use they could.
1	That we maximize what we have and make sure we need more parking, not based on 4 special events but on day to day use.
1	The future plan for parking to allow visitors and employees access to downtown.
1	There is not enough parking in downtown Fish Creek and along the highway 42 corridor during the peak tourist season.
1	There is not enough parking in the downtown area. The public parking behind the community center should be expanded. Employees should be required to park there. Parking should be short term downtown.
1	Too much congestion in the downtown area on holiday weekend during the summer.
1	Tourists not being able to find parking and getting frustrated
1	Will there be a spot fairly close to where I need to go.

**Count    Response**

---

1            adding more spaces if possible or provide a shuttle service during peak times

1            all businesses should have equal access to parking and no businesses should be "grandfathered" in. For example, if one restaurant can have unlimited seating, then all should.

1            none

1            that it will overpower the town itself and the town will lose its character and in turn its appeal to visitors and residents alike.

## Response Counts

Completion Rate:

100%



Complete



36

---

Total: 36

2. In general, when is parking most challenging in Fish Creek? Months, days of week, times of day?



Count	Response
1	12-5:00 pm July, August Tuesdays-Saturdays
1	9am - 2 pm, Sat and Sun, and all days from June - Oct.
1	All days July and August, 9am to 8pm. Weekends during September and October, 9am to 7pm.
1	During July and August, one day seems the same as the next, parking, navigation and congestion are a regular problem but seem the worst from 4-7 P M
1	Festivals mainly! Otherwise it's just like a big city, you drive around the block until a spot opens or you walk a good distance.
1	Few summer days on Saturdays, mostly holiday weekends - like any other town in america
1	Fire works just night.
1	In season weekends.

## Count Response

1	July & August 11am-5pm
1	July and August
1	July and August weekends in the afternoons.
1	July, August And Fall weekends -- 10 am to 6 pm
1	July-October, weekends, 10am-7pm
1	July/August, weekends, afternoon
1	June-October most days and usually 9-4
1	Large events are difficult for parking spaces. I would say 10am-4pm are high times as well as weekends May through October. Winter fest can also be tricky but the trolley does help with that.
1	Mid day summer months
1	Mid-June through mid-august. Weekends in the fall. Times that are the worst 11am - 7pm.
1	Parking is most challenging when all businesses are open (just to accommodate the staff) on weekends April, May and early June and daily mid-June through October.
1	Prime season
1	Summer afternoons.
1	Summer during the day
1	Summer mid afternoon through early evening.
1	Summer months. Particularly around holidays.
1	This question seems obvious - June - October Every day. Worse on weekends. All of the time.
1	june-oct, day and evening
1	mid late afternoons summer Thur - Sunday





3. Where do your customers generally park? Where do your employees park?



Count	Response
1	Both in the vicinity of my shop
1	Customers mostly on street. Employees I have park on back street lawn parking in front of what is now True Norths new building. (City property) I think it's Hill Rd.
1	Customers park on the street or in our small lot. Employees park on the street.
1	Customers park on the street, employees park in our back parking lot or on the streets behind our establishment.
1	Customers: not sure, on Main St probably Employees: assigned and labeled rented spots in parking lot behind our business
1	Employees park in our parking lot and on Cottage Row. Customers park in our parking lot and on Main ST in front of the WGI.
1	Generally, people park on the street. Little awareness of off road parking behind the post office.
1	I don't know where they park, my employees use our parking lot

**Count    Response**

---

1	In our lot
1	In our lot or on the street.
1	In our own lot
1	In the state park.
1	Mast convenient places.
1	N/A
1	On street around Clark Park or in parking lot next to Malibu Moos
1	Street and off-street parking near my business. Small parking lot in back.
1	They are parked all over. Usually they park wherever they started their day and walk to us. Or guests staying in FC often walk from their hotel. Or if they're coming for us from other towns they park in Town's gravel lot adjacent to Town Dock office & Barb's property.
1	They both park in our parking lot, on the street in front of our business and, when those get full, on neighboring streets, but not in front of other businesses.
1	We are fortunate to have a parking lot, but most customers park out front on the street. Our employees park on the edges of our parking lot or bike to work.
1	We offer private and public parking. Once our private lot is full, customers have to park almost .25 miles away to get to us. They have no complaints.
1	We provide parking to our customers on our property. Employee parking - n/a
1	customers park in Founders Square Lot or on the street. Employees park in Founders Square lot
1	depends if they are walking streets or coming specifically, employees do not other options then near the facility and most are older so can not walk far to park
1	designated spots
1	our parking lot

**Count    Response**

1	we have plenty of parking, business located outside of town
---	---

4. How long do your customers typically spend in your business? How long do you believe they spend in the shopping in the vicinity of your business? Do you believe there is an issue with all-day or long term parkers taking spots from your customers?



Count	Response
1	1 hour. I think some areas in Town could have short term (2 hour) parking.
1	1-2 hrs. no
1	10-15 minutes Perhaps a couple hours Probably. Right now it seems like there are a number of cars with For Sale signs being parked on Main St.
1	2-4 hours then usually lunch or walking and shopping (after taking my boat tour).
1	20-30 minutes several hours I believe many valuable spaces are taken by restaurant employees making it difficult for patrons to find a space and also boaters parking in double spaces.
1	3 days Not a problem for our business but it is a problem for the downtown area.
1	3 hours. They probably have dinner prior to the shows. Yes; there are limited spaces and non-customers of ours parked there all day.

## Count Response

1	30 minutes. A few hours. No
1	5-10 minutes in the store. I have a feeling most are in the vicinity for an hour or more. No, all-day and long term parkers don't seem to be an issue usually.
1	A few hours. The larger issue is that people who don't patronize our business park in our lot and leave for the day. We are required to have a certain number of spaces but we're really providing a community service because people park wherever they want.
1	About one to two hours. When there is not parking available elsewhere, they may park for much longer as they walk to the busier shopping areas. Sometimes, in the busiest weekends, we see cars parked in front of our business for up to eight hours. Presumably, these are staff from other businesses who either can't find parking close to where they work or have been instructed by their employers to park further away, to open up parking spaces for their customers.
1	Customers spend from a few minutes to 1/2 hour, I think most customers spend 2-3 hours walking, shopping, eating in town. I don't have issues with all day, but people selling cars that leave the car in the same spot for weeks at a time I do. Or a car that hasn't been moved in weeks.
1	Customers spend on average 1 hour in our business. On average customers probably spend 2-3 hours in the vicinity of our business. I do believe that there is an issue in some locations with long term parkers taking spots from customers, specifically near the town dock.
1	Don't know.
1	In my business, half hour. In and around town, half the day or night. Yes I think there is an issue with long-term parkers taking spots from customers. I'm afraid if they can't find a spot they just keep driving and don't blame them.
1	Most stay 1-2 hours for a meal. House guests who stay overnight typically park in our lot. In summer, dining guests will leave cars parked for the rest of the day to go shopping or to the beach.
1	On average 10-15 minutes, some walk in and out, then some stay for an hour or more. The majority of people walking in are going from door to door. The majority of my buying customers are coming to my destination and probably spending less time in other stores than the door to door shoppers. Long term parking is not a general problem except on big holidays like 4th of July

**Count    Response**

1	On average a customer spends 10 - 15 minutes in store. I would guess people would spend several hours with shopping and dining. I think employees and beach goers or people who park to cycle would be the biggest offenders.
1	Our customers spend from 15mins to 2-3 hours. There are a lot of shops around us, so I think they spend a considerable amount of time in the area. I believe there is an issue with long term parking-especially from motel guests who park on the street rather than in the parking lots of their motel or inn.
1	Usually 2 hours by us. I have no way of really knowing how long they then spend orotund town. My guess - 2-4 hours. I believe employees and Chambers Island residents could alleviate some parking congestion if they were offered some convenient alternatives. Some Chambers Island resident vehicles are left for weeks at a time downtown in public parking.
1	We are a lodging provider and our guests typically stay one week. They do shop in downtown Fish Creek and I believe there is an issue with long term parkers taking spots in front of businesses. Some cars stay several days parked in the same spot.
1	does not affect me
1	not an issue for our business
1	our customers spend about 3 hours parked in our lot. It may be helpful to guide people to appropriate parking spots for their intended purpose.

5. If more parking were made available helping facilitate more visitors to downtown Fish Creek, would that be a good thing?



Count	Response
3	Yes
1	Absolutely.
1	As long as there are no multi level structures and the parking does not take away from the quaintness of our town.
1	Depends on location and amount of spaces.
1	Depends on what you are taking away to make parking.
1	I don't think so but it depends upon what your goals are. More visitors presumably means more business but at some point more visitors may mean a less enjoyable shopping experience which in turn may mean less business and a diminished downtown environment. Is our goal to be like Sister Bay?
1	If it can be justified, that we really need more for day to day operations.
1	It depends where it is and if it is accessible to some form of public transit

## Count Response

1	It would absolutely be a good thing for downtown businesses if more people could be directed to off-road parking. Particularly good if the parking was in close proximity to the downtown and/or there could be some system of transporting visitors between more distant parking and downtown during the busier times of the year.
1	NO
1	No
1	Of course
1	Of course.
1	Parking is always a good thing.
1	That is a stupid question. Of course it would be.
1	Yes!! We are a tourism community. That's how we make our living.
1	Yes, if there were more parking for staff and customers, it would be very beneficial.
1	Yes.
1	Yes.
1	Yes. In general we don't experience, what I would call a severe parking problem at this point. But as downtown grows and we offer more activities to downtown visitors I believe the problem could worsen. I would like to see off-site parking offered with regular shuttle service to downtown. Making regular stops throughout the downtown before returning to off-site parking lot.
1	Yes. I think many of our dining guests leave after eating thinking they will park farther downtown, and then end up leaving because they can't find parking. I think more people would stay in town to shop and walk around if they were able to park.
1	Yes. We hear from a lot of people that if there is nowhere to park they just leave Fish Creek or don't stop at our business or other businesses. A lot of people won't even come to Fish Creek because it gets so congested and the drivers are horrible.
1	it would depend on what was given up to achieve this goal. I do believe a shuttle might help with employees who work long shifts of 8 hours.
1	not at taxpayer expense



**Count    Response**

---

1        yes

6. Do you have any other parking issues or ideas you would like to share?



Count	Response
1	Better signage is needed to get people to public parking lots. Beech users should park behind the community center. A large crosswalk/pedestrian walkway should be in front of the community building leading people to public parking lot behind building.
1	Businesses that provide parking for their customers are paying property taxes on parking spots. Other businesses that do not provide parking for their customers only pay taxes on the part of their business that earns them revenue. This doesn't seem right. Visitors need to be provided with information and signage that leads them to areas that are currently available to park in.
1	Don't change the beach lot Ybarra idea.
1	FYI - Sister Bay is implementing an off-site parking lot with regular trolley stops to downtown. Might want to check that program out and see how effective it is this summer.
1	Fish Creek is a great small town to visit and its appeal has lasted for generations. I'm beginning to hear , too frequently, that people do whatever it takes to avoid going downtown Fish Creek in the summertime. I'm afraid it's beginning to lose its appeal.

## Count Response

1	Free shuttle like Sister Bay just unveiled
1	Get Chambers Islanders to park off street. Get workers to park off street. What happened to making Spruce one way and adding parking?
1	Get a baseline, set a goal and implement the lowest cost And physical impact solution first (I.e reviewing and updating wayfindi g signage maybe).
1	How about employing a trolley to transport visitors from designated, well-marked parking areas to the downtown on weekends during summer and early fall. Would help preserve Fish Creek as a pedestrian friendly community.
1	I believe we need to develop more parking behind the Community Center and find ways to get staff to use it. We should also take advantage of public transportation (like the trolley) to allow staff and customers to park in remote lots (like the school in summer) and transport them to areas where they can move by foot.
1	I think the beach should have a sign that says "Parking for beach guests only" and then the public parking behind the library should be better marked so shopping and restaurant guests park there instead of at the beach.
1	It would wise for the T own to look into purchasing the Spielman's Kidworks property. There is a gigantic parking lot in back and the property connects to T own property including boat/ trailer parking and the T own Information Center. It's also nearby the newly acquired beachfront. Long term it would be invaluable to addressing Fish Creek's parking concerns. And it's for sale!
1	Leverage the existing parking in town by teaming up with the Trolley to offer shuttle service from the high school with four or five stops throughout town. This would also help expand our downtown to Top of the Hill.
1	Making it more visible to park behind town center would help and limiting parking time on the main street. Possibly maximize additional parking on the way to sunset beach. There could be a huge amount added by doing diagonal on the hidden harbor side.
1	My only issue I would have is cars that are left for weeks in the same spot or using prime parking spots as a used car lot.
1	No
1	Parking spots could be made smaller and if st all possible, have a no camper/trailer parking policy downtown

## Count Response

1	The Sister Bay trolley looks to be promising this summer. Keep an eye on it to see how it goes for them.
1	The playing field doesn't seem to be level in terms of some restaurants being required to have parking, others grandfathered, some have a few spots and people wait outside. The parking requirement is never going to be conforming in our small town. It should be completely removed as a requirement for restaurants to provide parking.
1	We have ONE place for a municipal parking lot in our Town. If we expand it, the property should be maximized for a true parking lot. Cut the trees, lighted sidewalk to it, multi-moto path around it and do it right. And start at one end (by the Town office) and expand it, maximize it. perfect place, it hidden and we need to plan right so as a need may grow, we can expand towards the East.
1	do away with parking regulations, attrition will close businesses that can not supply parking or on the other side of the coin, their product may be so good people will find parking to visit them
1	it is a nightmare trying to go south on hwy 42 at the stop sign inbetween junipers and on deck.
1	perhaps a trolley transport like Sister Bay?