Craig, Sondra

From: Abbie Leithold-Gerzema <abbie.leitholdmusic@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2025 5:51 PM

To: ZZ Council Members

Subject: Please choose Alt 2 to preserve on street parking downtown

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Hello Council Members,

As you consider your agenda item on Thursday, please follow the recommendation of the J&A vote and approve Alt 2 to preserve on street parking on 3rd and 4th Streets. Free parking is *essential* to the success of downtown retailers and restaurants. The addition of bike lanes would eliminate precious free on street parking. I understand the desire to create safe spaces for bicyclists, but US Hwy 53 is not the answer. There already is a safe, although largely unused, bicycle corridor on 2nd Street, so adding parallel lanes a block away would be duplication.

As a long time downtown business, our biggest challenge continues to be parking. Yes, there are nearby ramps, but they require a fee and are intimidating to many. We compete *every day* with the big box stores and the ease of purchasing online. We lose customers daily because they find it *difficult* to access our business. Lack of parking may only be a perception, but it is a reality that we deal with daily. Please support your community by preserving on street parking downtown. Bring consumers to our thriving central district to stay, spend and enjoy.

Thank you for reading.

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