

Memo

To: City of Charlotte Planning Commission
From: Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director
Date: December 28, 2016
Re: Street parking – Johnson Street

At a recent meeting, Planning Commission members asked for information related to street parking on Johnson Street near M-50/Shepherd Street, and whether it posed a safety concern.

Johnson Street is 28-feet wide, and is a local street. City design standards for local streets call for parking on both sides of the street in order to help slow traffic. This can be contrasted to Pleasant Street, which is an 'Act 51' Major Street, and parking is limited to one side to increase flow.

Therefore, in terms of design, Johnson Street is consistent with city standards.

I asked the Police Department for an accident history of the area, and it provided 10 years of accident history. In that time, there have been two accidents and no injuries. The first was an elderly driver who ran into the rear of a parked utility truck 100 feet north of Shepherd Street, so this would not seem to be related to the safety of the intersection. The second was a young driver who backed-out of a driveway into traffic.

With only two incidents, it wouldn't seem that this accident history points to a heightened safety problem.

The Police Department also made an effort to pay special attention to this area in case there are problems not being captured by accident reports. However, they did not see anything that raised concerns.

Please note that while I am able to provide this informational report, I am not part of the decision-making team for road safety concerns. Should the Planning Commission wish to discuss the issue further, I would suggest talking directly to the Police Chief or Public Works Director, either individually, or at a future Planning Commission meeting.