

Final Draft

New Castle Planning Commission Parking Subcommittee preliminary results of the parking survey.

The goal of the survey was to develop public input about the current state of parking and to understand the importance of various strategies for improvement. With the help of WILMAPCO (Wilmington Area Planning Council), 3000 questionnaires were distributed and 300 responses, from city residents, businesses, museums, churches and visitors were received.

See the tables below for information describing those who responded.

About those who LIVE in New Castle

8% Don't live in New Castle

75% House/apartment with off-street parking

17% House/apartment without off-street parking

Number of vehicles?	Percent
0	<1%
1	39%
2	48%
3	8%
4 or more	4%

Responses by neighborhood	
Downtown/Historic	63%
Washington Park	10%
Other	8%
Van Dyke Village	4%
Baldton	3%
NA	3%
Boothhurst	3%
Shawtown	2%
Buttonwood	1%
Penn Valley	1%
New Castle Manor	1%
Dobbinsville	1%

About those who WORK in New Castle

Where people park who work in New Castle:

76% Don't work in New Castle

8% On-street parking

7% Private, off-street lot

2% Public, off-street lot

5% work at home

3% walk to work

0% bike to work

In what neighborhood?

35 respondees work in Downtown/historic district

17 work outside downtown or did not respond

Downtown/historic district respondents by street	
Delaware St	49%
The Strand	11%
2nd St	9%
3rd St	9%
5th St	6%
9th St	6%
4th St	3%
6th St	3%
Cherry St	3%

About those who VISIT the historic district

Where people park who visit the historic district:

60% On-street parking

47% walk to visit

14% Public, off-street lot

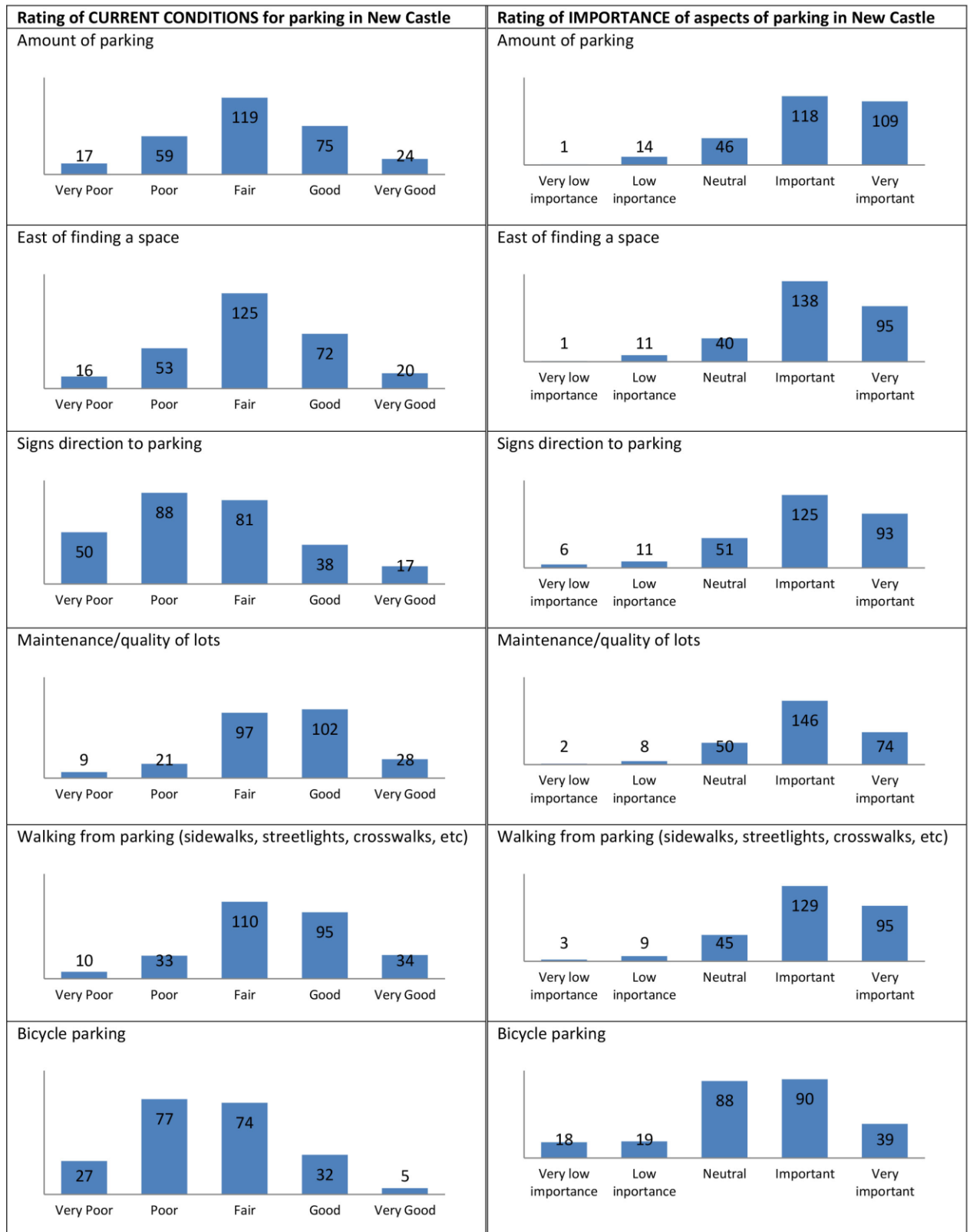
7% Private, off-street lot

5% Don't visit

4% bike to visit

Percentage of responses by number of minutes they would be willing to walk from where they park	
0 minutes	3%
1 to 5 minutes	57%
6 to 10 minutes	25%
More than 10 minutes	15%

The results rating current conditions and their importance and possible strategies by number of responses are shown below.





The questionnaire provided for written comments where individual ideas for goals, concerns and strategies for parking improvement were obtained. Over 50% of those completing the survey responded to one or more of these questions.

The parking improvement issues identified by the survey will be prioritized for those that may be a quick fix and those that will require longer range planning. A City parking inventory study the historic district has been initiated to evaluate the number of parking spaces on and off street, public and private lots.

Analysis of all the issues raised is ongoing.

Based on the survey response, the path forward will include consideration of and recommendations for the following:

- the merits of a residential permitting process to include study of administrative and enforcement costs,
- the inconsistency of current curb and signage issues, and handicapped access,
- an optimum mixed use plan for businesses and residents,
- improved directional signage for current parking lots,
- the potential for additional off street parking
- enhancement of pedestrian and bicycling experience.

Additional public input will be sought for prior to final planning and implementation.

See a full copy of and Preliminary Parking Survey Report to the Planning Commission on the City website: newcastlecity.delaware.gov/.

The report appendix includes the Parking Sub Committees Goals and Guiding Principles and a detailed summary of all responses.