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Meeting Set to Discuss Downtown Hiawatha Parking Concerns

(KNZA)-- A town hall meeting has been set to discuss parking concerns in downtown Hiawatha.

Police Chief John Defore is inviting all business owners, property owners and tenants in the 600 and 700 blocks of Oregon to the meeting on Thursday, February 4th at 5:30 in the evening at the Hiawatha City Hall

Suggested ideas include placing one hour parking signs in every 3rd stall, making all stalls one hour parking, installing parking meters, or taking no action at all. Defore says it's hoped the meeting will be the beginning of the process to find a solution that meets the needs of the majority.

In December, the owners of Giggle Girls Cakery told City Commissioners that the lack of parking in the 700 block of Oregon is causing issues with their business. They asked the Commission for help, requesting they consider posting time-limited parking signs. However, Commissioners said they weren't in favor of installing parking limit signs and thought a better approach would be to ask the businesses to have their employees park in the back of their business.

Defore told Commissioners he would visit with businesses in the block to request they utilize back door parking in the alley if possible to help alleviate the problem. However, a month later some business owners in that block still feel there is a problem.

Many Signals Communications