

Additional Parking Possible For Atchison

(KAIR)--An idea out of the Public Works and Utilities office could mean more parking along 6th Street adjacent to Commercial Street.

“What if I could present to you an opportunity to come up 18-20 additional parking spaces in down town that are in existing real estate, and it costs you next to nothing?” asked Justin Pregont, director of Public Works and Utilities. “I think that folks who own businesses and rely on traffic certainly realize the value of having parking spaces as close as possible to their locations.”

Pregont presented his suggestion to city commissioners at last Monday’s meeting.

But there’s a problem.

“The only issue that my staff had was they felt it was going to increase congestion in that area,” said Atchison Fire Chief Mike McDermed. “That particular street is a main response route for us to go to the highway and also to go West on Main Street.”

McDermed said that even now they sometimes have trouble getting through that area—especially if a truck or car is double parked which he said does happen.

But, he did say he saw the merits of adding parking in that area.

Pregont said he merely wants to open a dialogue and would be willing to compromise on the issue.

Adding parking to only one side of the street was discussed. Commissioners received the plan to discuss at a later date.

Many Signals Communications