

## BETHLEHEM SMALL BUSINESS-OWNER PARKING SURVEY

Hi there. I am one of your city council members, Paige Van Wirt. As you may be aware, the Mayor and the Bethlehem Parking Authority are proposing increasing metered parking rates to \$1.50 an hour. There is a Public hearing on the proposal on September 20th, 6 pm Town Hall. To understand the dynamics of parking in Bethlehem better, particularly as it impacts small-business owners and their customers in Bethlehem, I am asking for your opinions on the subject. Please fill out the answers to the questions below in as much detail as you like. You can remain anonymous, or tell me who you are and what issues you deal with. Your responses will remain confidential, for my eyes only, unless you indicate you are ok with me sharing your concerns. I'm aware the BPA already conducted a general survey but I would like to hear from you myself, particularly about proposed meter rate increases. I have attached an envelope for you to mail me, the old fashioned way, or feel free to email me your answers- you don't have to use the form, just tell me what you are concerned about and how I can help make your business stronger. My email is [pvanwirt@bethlehem-pa.gov](mailto:pvanwirt@bethlehem-pa.gov). You can also follow me on Facebook for announcements/ information relevant to the City. City Council meetings, on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month, start at 7 pm in Town Hall; there is a public comment section at the start every meeting if you would like to address your concerns to the whole of council. You are welcome and encouraged to attend and let us know how you feel. Small businesses are integral to the health of Bethlehem; I want to help you succeed.

#1) what % of your customers rely on:

- A) metered parking
- B) non-metered parking
- C) paid lot/garage
- D) free lot (ie Ruins or similar)
- E) not reliant on cars/parking

#2) how would an increase in metered rates affect your business? Would you prefer more parking spot turn-over over less? (Higher fees generally = more turnover, but potentially less total users)

#3) Do you feel more paid garage parking is needed?

#4) would increasing parking ticket fines help/harm/do nothing for your business?

#5) What are your general concerns regarding parking in Bethlehem?

#6) What is City Hall getting right?

#7) what can I do better for you on City Council? What can City Hall in general do better?

#8) your name and business, (you may remain anonymous if you wish) and care I share your concerns as we discuss the Mayor's proposal?

Please feel free to add anything else that concerns you regarding your municipal government, and thanks very much for your input.