

What's Happening

The City sets minimum parking requirements to spell out how many off-street parking spaces a property must have for a given use and location. They are generally designed to guarantee plenty of parking at peak demand, creating far more spaces than usually needed. High parking requirements encourage people to drive more – leading to worse traffic, higher carbon emissions, and more expensive housing and other costs. At a time when many cities are reducing or even eliminating minimum parking requirements, Quincy's remain very high. Quincy Climate Action Network is encouraging our mayor and city councilors to lower our requirements in line with our city's needs.

Why It Matters

- An abundance of free parking incentivizes people to drive more and leads to less pedestrian-friendly cities.
- 43% of our state's greenhouse-gas emissions come from the transportation sector – our biggest single source.
- Parking structures cost \$25,000 – 30,000 per space to build, not including the cost of land. This adds \$100 – 150 per month to housing costs – more if you include operation and maintenance.
- Many households in our densest neighborhoods have no cars. For example, 37% of Quincy Center households are carless, with the area averaging just 0.88 cars/household for homeowners and 0.69 cars/unit for renters.

What You Can Do

- Urge the mayor and city council to lower Quincy's parking requirements.
- Join QCAN and support our efforts on this issue.
- Learn more about the high costs of free parking and spread the word!