CITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE
TRUCK PARKING MANAGEMENT PLAN
Being smart about traffic and parking
The City of St. Augustine, with assistance of the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization, completed a truck and commercial vehicle management plan to address the traffic and parking needs within the city. This study recommends a commercial vehicle management plan that addresses parking, traffic and historic preservation in St. Augustine. With 13,000 residents and more than 3 million visitors annually, the businesses that serve the tourists are our city’s economic engine. These businesses rely on frequent deliveries from commercial vehicles to supply their inventory. These needs must be balanced to preserve the city’s infrastructure, protect the historic nature, maintain our quality of life and sustain economic prosperity.

Through an extensive planning process that included parking inventories, traffic data collection, truck parking occupancy studies, a user’s survey and public workshops, a comprehensive parking strategy was developed.

Parking solutions to meet our needs

**STRATEGIES THAT LEVERAGE SMART PARKING MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS WERE DEVELOPED.**

**TIME RESTRICTIONS IN LOADING ZONES**

This strategy involves using signage and enforcement to provide additional spaces for delivery trucks and larger vehicles before 10 a.m. and reserve some spaces during business hours for trucks that require longer durations until 5 p.m., which is consistent with their peak demand. These spaces would revert to automobile parking when the demand is the greatest. This strategy will also incentivize commercial vehicles and larger trucks to make deliveries during the off-peak periods providing a more efficient allocation of the limited parking in St. Augustine.

**REDESIGN EXISTING PARKING AREAS**

Existing parking lots at the Tolomato lot, Spanish Street loading zone, Toques loading zone and the Court lot will be modified to provide a more flexible configuration to accommodate trucks. The improvements proposed include milling and resurfacing the pavement, new pavement markings and landscaping islands.
MODIFYING TRUCK ROUTES

Creating a network of streets to access the enhanced parking space allocation and management strategy to reduce noise, pavement wear and damage to historic area structures and neighborhoods.

SMART PARKING TECHNOLOGIES

Leveraging intelligent technologies to manage spaces and perform enforcement will allow the city to be more efficient and ensure there is a consistent and accurate enforcement program. New payment methods such as pay-by-phone apps will be more convenient for users and provide them greater opportunities to ensure they are compliant with parking restrictions.

RESTRUCTURING PERMITS, FINES AND FEES

Updating the permits, fines and loading zone fees will incentivize greater compliance and a more equitable distribution of resources. No direct costs are associated with implementing these policies but there are administrative costs to modify the city’s ordinance and enforcement.
The benefits of St. Augustine’s smart parking management approach include a more efficient allocation of the existing infrastructure in order to better meet the demands of trucks and automobile parking. The time restrictions in loading zones will result in greater flexibility configuring spaces to meet demand while incentivizing trucks and delivery vehicles to use off-peak periods. Redesigning existing parking areas and providing designated truck routes to the truck parking areas will allow us to maximize the space available to meet our parking needs and reduce the damage to our streets and the historic urban fabric. Smart parking technologies will result in better utilization of law enforcement resources and a more consistent and accurate enforcement program. Applications such as pay-by-cell phone are also more convenient to the user and will reduce parking times and fines. Smart parking also provides real time information for delivery vehicles and truck drivers to avoid circulating to search for open spaces. Restructuring the city’s permits, fines and loading zone fees will result in a more equitable structure and allow the city to better manage their resources and respond to the needs of local residents and the business community.