

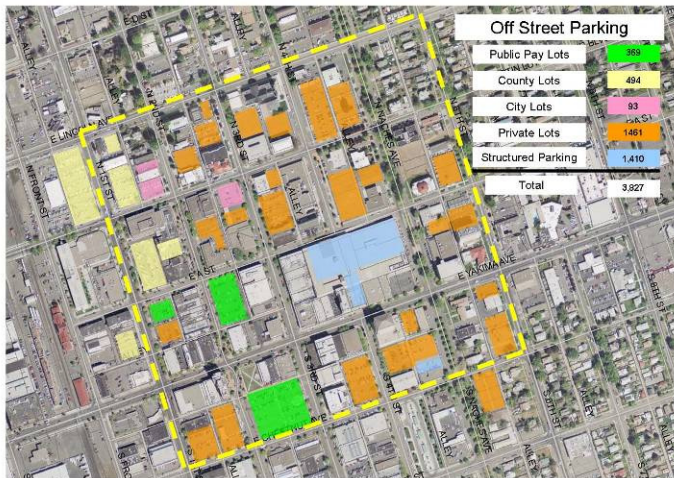
**Downtown Parking Management
& Operations Analysis
Yakima, Washington**



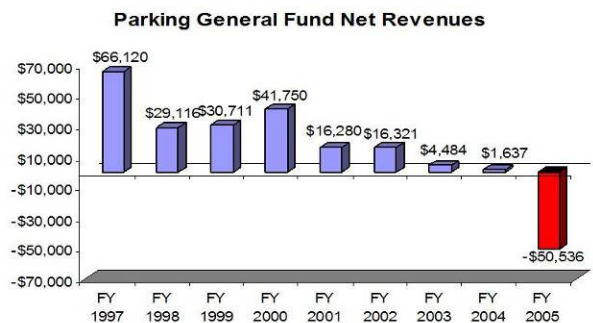
The results of our parking and land use analysis produced an eye opening experience for the newly formed Committee for Downtown Yakima (CDY) and the Downtown Yakima Foundation. Our budget and financial review showed that the parking system was under-funded and losing money. The physical condition of municipal parking lots was poor due to a lack of ongoing maintenance. There was no centralized parking management, leadership or organizational structure. Free, time limited on street parking was being habitually abused by all day parkers due to a complete lack of enforcement. Basically, Downtown Yakima received a failing grade in all aspects of its downtown parking operation.

Part of our analysis included an inventory and mapping of all parking in the downtown to include public and private, on and off street parking and existing parking regulations. The results of our analysis revealed that there was adequate parking throughout downtown, but parking was not being managed properly. The most startling aspect of our inventory and mapping showed that over 35% of the developable downtown land area was devoted to surface parking.

Based on our findings and recommendations, the Committee for Downtown Yakima is working with the City of Yakima to address areas of needed improvement. A parking committee has been formed to continue to work on downtown parking issues. Our analysis provided the CDY with the baseline information needed to benchmark conditions; to monitor improvements over time; and to develop a long term parking management plan in cooperation with the City.



Parking System Financial History



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