

Dewey

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out, and will allow for emergency vehicle access. The company owns the Ruddertowne Complex, the Lighthouse and the Hyatt Place on the south side of the lot. Dewey Beach Police Sgt. Cliff Dempsey said congestion was a problem last summer during the construction of the Hyatt Place. He said it was his department's position that there are problems with the current plans and the goal from the police perspective is to get a space large enough for emergency vehicles.

"Looking at the plan' it will eliminate emergency vehicles' problems," he said.

The discussion of eliminating all of the parking - two lanes for a total of 29 spots - was broached during a February commissioners' meeting after businesses and residents said it was too congested.

At the time, Highway One

"IF THERE'S PARKING IN THE MIDDLE, WE WILL, IN THE NICEST WAY POSSIBLE, BE SEEKING RELIEF IN COURT."

potential revenue loss in half.

Martha Sweeney, Highway One comptroller, said during the most recent meeting the previous arrangements were agreed to under the idea that all the parking was going to be eliminated. Under the current plan, the company would not support the idea and would not contribute any funds, she said.

"While our leadership appreciates the work being done, we don't feel the safety issues are being addressed," said Sweeney.

This news prompted Commissioner David Jasinski to ask Lower if DBE would be willing to cover the costs. After a brief phone conversation with his associates, Lower said he had been authorized to pay for the entire project. Lower said he's disappointed that Highway One would not participate, but DBE is interested in moving forward with the project. Lower said if Highway One were so concerned with pedestrian safety, it could increase the width of the north sidewalk by using some of its property, as DBE was doing on the south side of the lot.

"DBE will be putting its money where its mouth is," he said.

Sweeney then got back up and threatened the commissioners



SUBMITTED ILLUSTRATION

THE NEW PARKING ARRANGEMENT for Dickinson Avenue in Dewey Beach. The current two rows of parking will be eliminated in favor of one centered row of parking that will improve pedestrian safety and relieve traffic congestion.

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