

President's Space



Jack Janiga
MIPA President

That is right, there is a new face in this space. I was saddened to lose Jay O'Dell from his position but also excited at my election to act as his replacement.

I am looking forward to helping move the MIPA forward and having it recognized as a valued resource to help meet your career objectives and great place to expand your network.

I will be sharing my thoughts and ideas on how to achieve these goals, but it will really be the collective input of our members that will drive us in that direction.

Hopefully, the updates shared in this edition

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Detroit parking garage will feature automated parking system by Ford, Bosch in self-driving car demonstration

By Mark Phelan and Pheobe Wall Howard; Detroit Free Press



A Ford Escape with already available features demonstrates automated valet parking in a Detroit parking structure. *Photo by Mark Phelan/Detroit Free Press*

I personally had the opportunity to attend two demonstrations of this product and how it is being geared to enhance parking operations. I found that the opportunities far outweigh the challenges in implementation and definitely see this as being on the horizon as far as becoming a part of our operations sooner than later. I hope you will enjoy the read... *Jack*

The vehicles will demonstrate the system by automatically pulling in and out of parking spaces and avoiding obstacles, including pedestrians, other parked vehicles and stray objects as small as a glass of water or a cat darting through the structure.

The vehicles will use technology that's already available on Ford vehicles, said Greg Stevens, Ford global manager of driver assistance technology.

Automotive technology supplier Bosch will equip the garage with Lidar, a light mapping technology used by self-driving vehicles, and other sensors – also using parts that are commercially available today. The company has already demonstrated similar technology in Germany, but this marks its first official demonstration in North America, Bosch Director of

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Parking Demo *continued from front page*



A Ford Escape with already available features parks itself in a Detroit parking structure. *Photo by: Mark Phelan/Detroit Free Press*

Mobility Solution Sales Kevin Mull said.

The demo isn't open to the public.

"Automated valet parking," which is how Ford and Bosch are describing the demonstration, could increase the garage's capacity by 15%-20% because vehicles can be parked closer

near the garage's entrance and exit their vehicle.

The system then directs the vehicle to the closest empty spot. The vehicle uses its onboard sensors to park there. When the driver is ready to leave, the vehicle is summoned to meet them near the entrance.

Automated valet parking could increase garage capacity by 15 - 20%.

together if you needn't leave space for the doors to open and people to enter and exit.

"It takes parking out of your life as a pain point," Ford's Stevens said.

When a driver pulls in, the driver is directed to stop on a designated spot

In addition to freeing people from the hassle of parking, the system could direct electric vehicles to charging pads or send them to the apartment building's entrance.

It could also have vehicles arrange

themselves for a quick exit after work or events like concerts and sports.

Parking development is a major issue for property managers in metropolitan areas, said Heather Wilberger, chief information officer at Bedrock, the garage owner.

This sort of autonomous strategy can mean packing more cars into tighter spaces while alleviating issues like car door dings or dealing with someone who is double-parked.

This is about retrofitting existing garages in ways that improve the consumer experience as well as improve the bottom line for garage owners as they fit more cars into less space, Wilberger said.

Fitting 20% more vehicles in existing

decks just solves a practical problem, Mayor Mike Duggan said.

"This kind of feature is just one more message that the city of Detroit is the place where the future of mobility is going to be developed," he said.

President's Letter *continued from page 1*

of "MI Parking Spot" will generate some buzz with both current members and potential new members - we need you to share the news with your friends and associates in the parking and mobility industries!

As we collectively redefine the MIPA, let us show the rest of the country that

Michigan should be noted as a leader in these arenas because of the experience and initiative of its' members from every level of every organization touching these fields.

For now, I encourage everyone to safely re-engage in your normal business activities, re-discover the social activities

we have been missing for much of the past 16 months and recognize and appreciate the blessings we have had in our lives all along!

Speaking of re-engaging, start planning now on getting together September 23rd for an exciting golf event on us! See the July Update in this issue for more details!

An Update on MIPA, Your Parking Resource

In recognizing that, even prior to this pandemic, we had seen a diminishing interest in the organization, both from membership levels and overall participation, the current Board of Directors began exploring ways to reverse this trend and remodel the MIPA in a way that provides better communication, encourages member participation and expands upon the resources we bring to all members. So, I would like to share some recent initiatives that have been undertaken and/or are being explored to bring new life to the organization.

First, I feel like everyone needs to know who is currently representing them as Board Members. So please take a moment to peruse these brief profiles and get to know the members I am proud to be associated with as we move the organization forward.

Jack Janiga, Interim President – I have been engaged in leadership and executive capacities in the parking industry since 2006 and my current role with LAZ Parking entails oversight of all commercial operations in Michigan. I have been a member-at-large on the Board since 2018 and was recently elected to replace our resigning President. I look forward to working with all of you to make this a preferred resource for parking and mobility interests.

Aaron Terpstra, Vice President - Aaron has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a master's degree in Public Administration. He began working for the City of Grand Rapids in 2000 as a security officer for the Mobile GR and Parking Dept. Aaron Currently is the Parking Facility Supervisor and has been in this role since 2017.

Susan Wyatt, Treasurer - Susan is the Parking Office and Enforcement Supervisor for the City of Lansing. She has over 20 years of experience in the parking industry. She has been a member of the MPA for many years and has been on the Board of Directors since 2012.

Traci Shell, Secretary – Traci has been in the parking industry since 1999 and has held multiple positions of leadership for the City of Lansing during that time. She is currently the Operations Supervisor at Lansing while having been supporting the MPA the Secretary since 2007. In this capacity, she has been instrumental in conference and activity planning.

Catherine Burch - With over 30 years of experience in the Michigan parking industry and a lifelong Michigander, board member Catherine Burch is committed to the success of the Michigan Parking Association. In her current role as regional manager for SP+ Parking, Catherine oversees the SP+ Parking operations in southeast Michigan.

Jon Frederick - Jon has 36 years in Parking and Transportation and his current position is the Director of Parking and Transportation, Wayne State University. Member of MPA since 1989. Past MPA Board President. Parking and Transportation has always fit his passion of working with the public, not being confined to an office all day and providing excellent customer service. Jon shares that his appreciation for his time with the MPA for the fantastic networking and the camaraderie.

Keith Hay Jr. – Keith is the president of Traffic & Safety Control Systems and has worked in parking industry for over 12 years. Over the course of his career, he has worked as a field technician, installation manager and sales representative for T&S. Keith is in his 5th year on the MIPA Board.

Debby Nyenhuis - Debbie has been a member of the MPA for 20 years and has served on the board two different terms for a total of 8 years and as our President twice. She is a 27- year veteran of the parking industry; having worked in the municipal, airport, vendor, and private operator areas of the industry and is currently in the role of Director of Operations for Ellis Parking

Company. She is also a commissioner for the GR Mobility Commission for the City of Grand Rapids.

Along with getting to know the current members, please join me in thanking those members who have resigned over the past year or two.

Margaret Hannon – While amassing a well-recognized place in the parking industry through her career with Henry Ford Hospital, Margaret also supported the MPA through participation and being a member of the board for many years, before finally retiring in 2019. She was directly involved in the planning and implementation of our successful 2019 Spring Conference in Dearborn.

Julie Parisian - Julie has worked in the Parking Industry for over 30 years as an Enforcement Worker for the Muskegon Police Department. She served on the MPA Board for 10 years up until resigning earlier this year. Among other areas of support, Julie assisted with the coordination of our Summer/Fall Conferences and Golf Outings for 10 years.

Jason (Jay) O'Dell – Jason, known to most of us as Jay, has been in the parking industry since 2000 and held several leadership and executive roles in private industry here in Michigan for most of that time. Jay also was a dedicated MPA Board member, serving as the President up until the time of his resignation earlier this year.

The first step was to review and edit for current updates the By-Laws of the organization. We found that there were improvements to be made in the objectives and some of the defined processes, particularly as related to participation on Board committees and an annual schedule of activity. These were drafted, reviewed, edited and approved by vote of the Board. The updated version can

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be viewed on our website.

That dovetails nicely into a review and revision of the look and feel of the existing website. We have not changed the name or URL, but you will find new content presented in what we are confident you will agree is an improved format.

Along with the website, we also focused on the newsletter. This resulted in the new name, MI Parking Resource, a new look and a plan for the consistent distribution of a product we can all look forward to and benefiting from at the same time.

In place of what was the standard President's Letter component of our newsletter, I would like to propose a new format as a regular entry for the MI Parking Spot web publication. As the recently elected replacement for Jason O'Dell, whose resignation from the MIPA President position, took us by surprise, I think there is an opportunity here to expand on the concept of the MIPA being every member's parking resource.

My ask here of you is to participate in submitting entries for a "One Member's Thoughts" piece to replace the previous "President's Letter." It can only work with your participation. For distributions for which we have not received an entry, I will endeavor

to share meaningful content, but am very much looking forward to hearing from all of you instead!

Maybe the coolest (yeah, I just aged myself) new initiative was the selection of a new organization logo. After many entries and several reviews, we decided on a logo that would help promote the MIPA as a viable resource for anyone supporting the parking and mobility industries. If you haven't noticed it already, here it is:

The concept here is to identify as My (MI) Parking Association and "Your Parking Resource." The logo can be presented in several different configurations and backgrounds for use on anything from letterhead, the website, banners and even on various forms of MIPA swag.



As a Board, we are also taking the initiative to endeavor personally and collectively to build our membership and active participation levels. These efforts will consist of, but not be limited, to sending personal

emails to our contacts including existing members to encourage new membership and engagement in planning and review committees. We see our membership as the greatest resource we can develop.

We have selected the date of September 23rd for the MIPA Golf event to be held at Timber Ridge in Lansing!! In an effort to further the membership drive initiative, we are offering the **GOLF EVENT FREE** to all members who pay their dues prior to September 13th. The membership will actually be extended through 2022, meaning you will get up to 17 months plus a free golf outing for the price of a one-year membership. You can expect a full day of activity to include dinner following golf and a business update sprinkled in between many great raffle prizes and awards! See our website for details on membership and the outing.

While we are excited about these new and current initiatives, we are even more excited about where the MIPA can go with a broader base, more inclusive roster of members and their participation in our committees and Board as we continually redefine ourselves in the present and for the future.

Let's do this together!

Jack



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