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# DOWNTOWN BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION of LOS ANGELES



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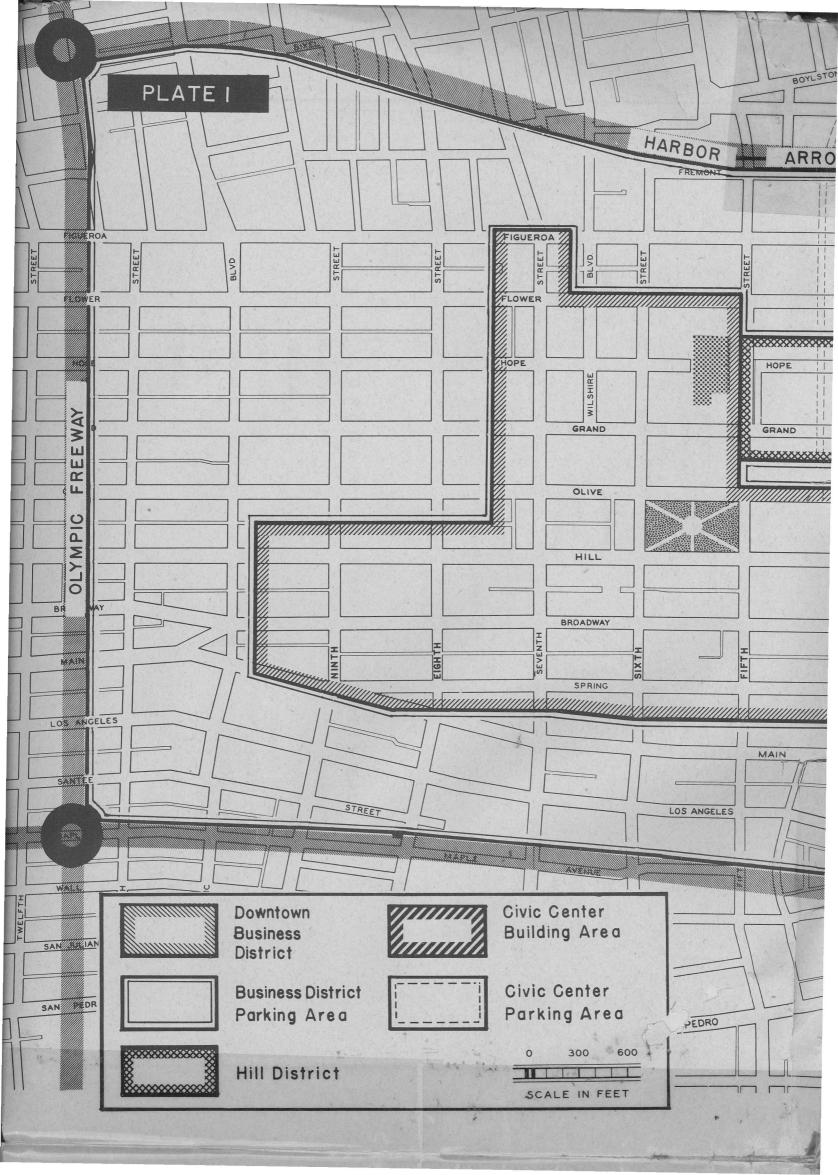
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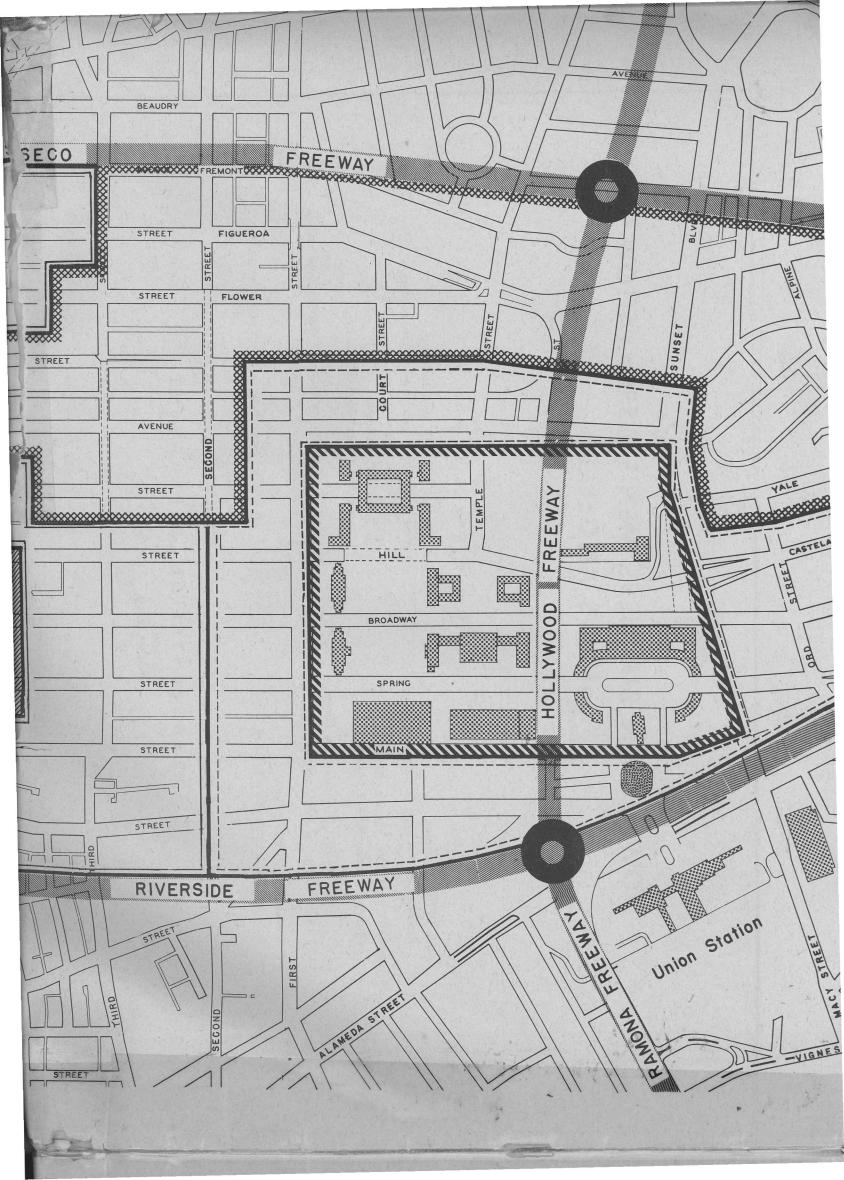
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## DOWNTOWN BUSINESS MEN'S ASSOCIATION

of LOS ANGELES

590 Subway Terminal Building • 417 South Hill Street • Michigan 1213 Los Angeles 13, California

January 10, 1945

TO THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The following report of the Parking Committee of the Transportation Department is submitted to the President and Board of Directors in the hope that it will establish certain basic factors in the solution of the automobile parking problem affecting the Downtown Area. It is believed that the facts collected and presented in the report will help the Association to develop and present from time to time to its members and interested government officials, plans which will progressively meet the growing need for more and better parking facilities in Downtown Los Angeles.

On later pages of the report we have endeavored to give due credit to those to whom we are indebted for much of the information hereafter set out in text, charts and maps, but we feel that special mention should be made here of the great assistance given us by the Regional Planning Commission of Los Angeles County and its staff who provided information secured by them in a comprehensive parking and transportation survey of Los Angeles Downtown Area in 1941. With the help of this information it has been possible for us to determine the general conditions affecting parking as they existed before the changes in business and automobile uses brought on by the war had occurred. From this basic background estimates have been made to cover the parking needs of the post-war future.

This report is not presented as a solution of the parking problem, but as a contribution to the solution which must be found by continuous action and study. To this end certain recommendations for immediate action and further study are presented.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKING COMMITTEE

The sale of the sale of the

Walter J. Braunschweiger, Chairman Eugene P. Clark William H. Schuchardt Carl Bush, Director of Transportation

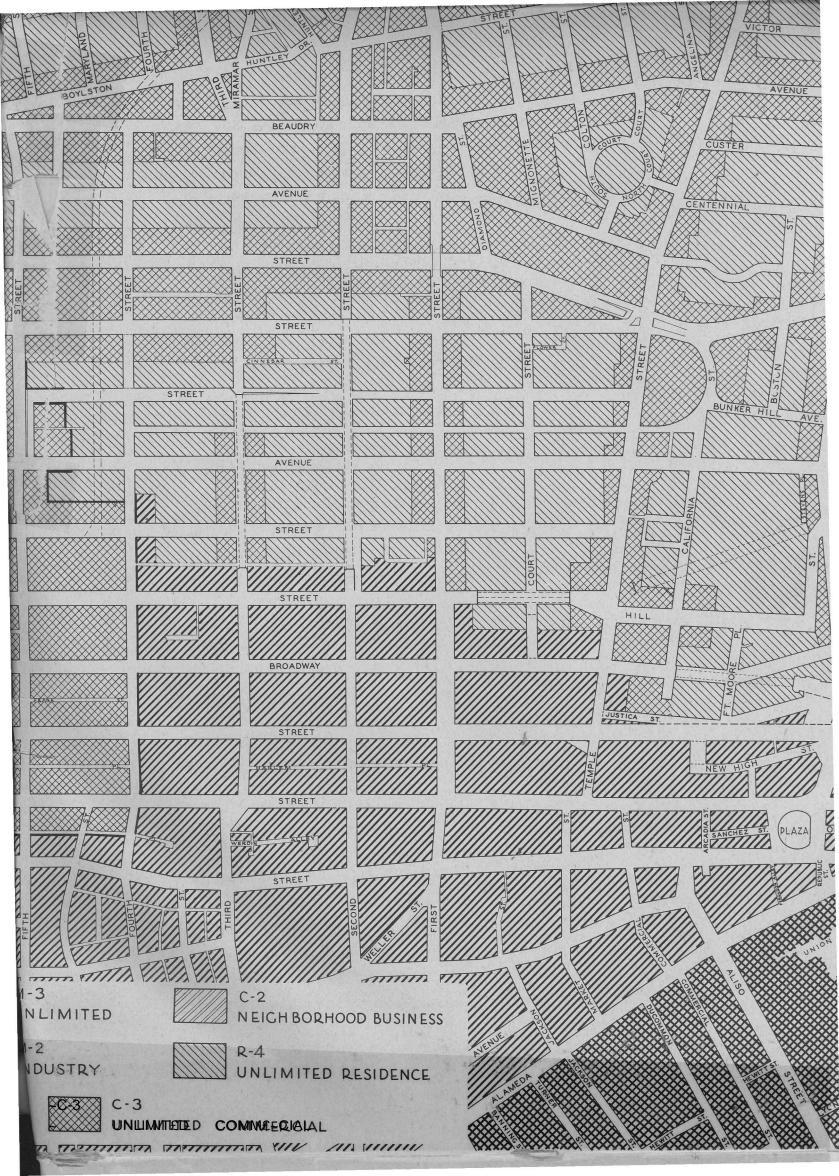
"DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES HAS EVERYTHING"

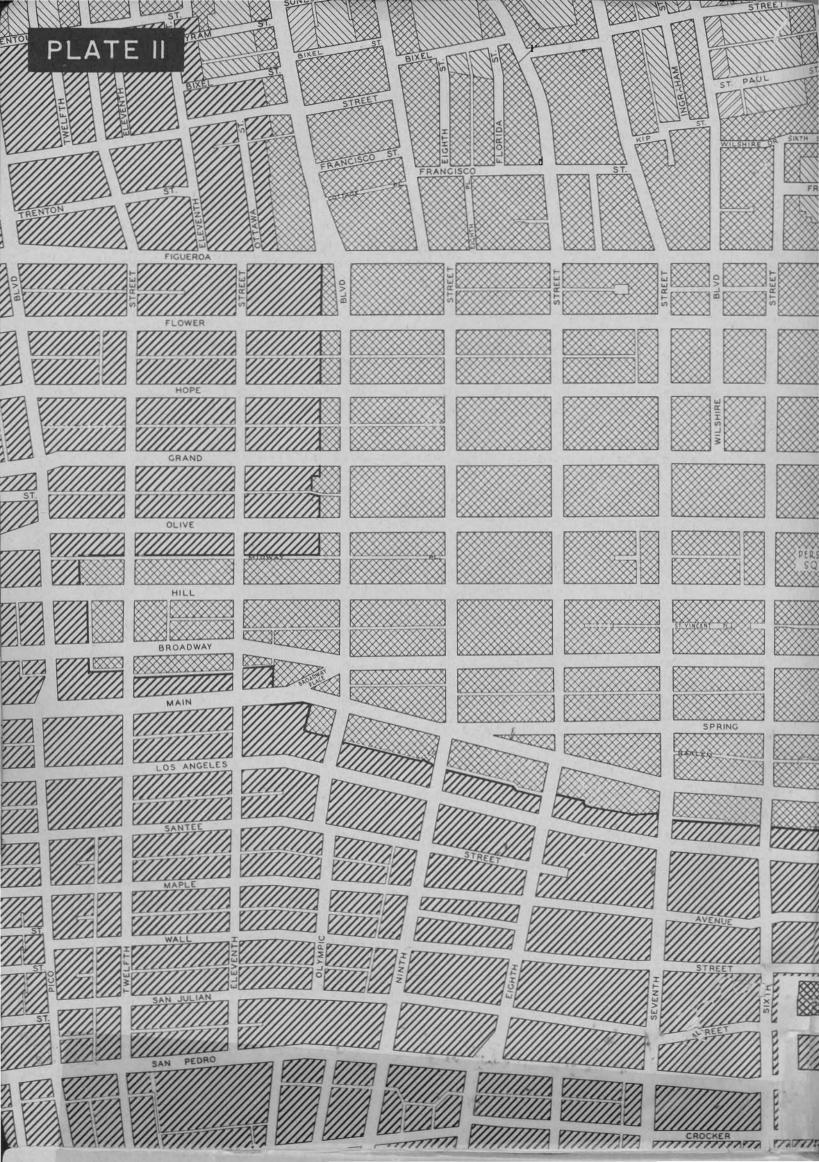
ORGANIZED FOR YEAR-ROUND
COOPERATIVE PROMOTION AND
PROTECTION OF DOWNTOWN
BUSINESS AND PROPERTY.



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# Section One BASIC INFORMATION

#### DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

The name "Downtown Los Angeles" has for many years been applied to that portion of the city which is bounded by Sunset and Pico Boulevards on the north and south and by Los Angeles and Figueroa Streets on the east and west. This area is approximately 9,600 feet long and 3,400 feet wide. Within it are located the city's largest retail stores; the principal offices of the banks and other financial institutions serving Southern California; and the Civic Center, in which are located practically all city, county, state and federal administration buildings.

Downtown Los Angeles is the geographical center of the population of Los Angeles County as determined by the 1940 census. The population of the county as of January 1, 1945, is reliably estimated to be 3,375,150.

For convenience in preparing this report, the Downtown Area has been divided into five districts as shown on PLATE I. They are as follows: Downtown Business District comprising the city blocks in which most of the major stores, financial headquarters, and modern office buildings are located; Civic Center Building District as adopted by the city and county; the Hill District which, by reason of its location and an average altitude of one hundred feet or more above the remainder of the area, is an important factor in the parking problem; and Parking Districts for the Business and Civic Center Districts.

The Parking Districts have been so designated because they are naturally located where they will best serve the active Business and Civic institutions, and because they contain comparatively few important buildings or businesses. Many vacant lots, inexpensive buildings, and generally lower property values make it possible to locate within these districts parking lots and garages which will adequately meet the demand for low- and medium-priced parking accommodations, while centrally located garages offering higher priced services can be located within the Business and Civic Center Districts.

#### TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES

As the original business center for the area now known as Los Angeles County, Downtown Los Angeles has through the years been the natural center of public and private transportation serving the county. Local and interurban street car and bus systems cover the county with a network of lines which can

Sin Hearly

furnish excellent transportation most of the county's population given the area within a five-mile District.

The street and highway syst ally center in the Downtown Ar all regularly employed men and miles of the Area work at locati at points from which a direct through the Area, while shoppe portation desire to reach the I cause it offers them the ample s many large stores and specialty.

The rapid increase in autom the street and highway system of the breaking point. The chart of around the central traffic distr PLATE IV, illustrate graphical mobiles into and through the l conditions.

#### PLATE I-

Map shows the Downtown Lothe text. Proposed freeways mashown in approximate locations shown in the Civic Center Buildi First Street are realigned as not

The five districts outlined in available for open-air parking land Civic Center Districts.

#### PLATE II—

For convenience in studying II, showing the zoning of the Do will be noted that the areas zone cally confine the Business Distribution boundaries on the north, east, a acts as an additional barrier on the studying III.

#### PLATE III-

PLATE III, showing building provides additional basic inform termining the proper amount an material changes have occurred the Automobile Club.

## LES PARKING STUDY

Downtown Los Angeles for Particularly good coverage is lius of the Downtown Business

of the city and county naturbecause a large proportion of omen residing within twenty within or near Downtown or e from home to work leads using automobiles for transvntown Business District beeks and shopping facilities of ops in one compact area.

le traffic had, by 1942, taxed the city and county almost to cordon counts made at points in October, 1941, shown on the tremendous flow of autowntown Area under pre-war

#### GE TWO

Angeles Area as described in ig up the Downtown loop are Proposed public buildings are District, and streets north of proposed by the city engineer. cate graphically the locations in relation to the Business

#### GE LOUR

he parking problem, PLATE ntown Area, was prepared. It for manufacturing automatirather closely to its present south, while the Hill District north.

#### AGE SIX

ights and type of construction, on of considerable value in deocation of parking spaces. No ace this map was prepared by To meet the insistent demand for highways to serve the traffic needs of this and other areas throughout the State of California, a system of freeways is being projected and planned by state, county, and city engineers. The chart map, PLATE VI, shows the general plan of freeways designed to serve most of Los Angeles County. Completed freeways and those proposed for immediate post-war construction are indicated.

The importance of completing the freeway system as rapidly as possible must be apparent to everyone, but the completion of even the units proposed for immediate post-war construction will present a new parking problem in the Downtown District which must be solved if traffic is to move freely and economically.

PLATE I shows the approximate location of the freeway loop which it is proposed to build around the Downtown Area as a part of the county-wide system shown on PLATE VI. The importance of this loop will be pointed out in later paragraphs.

The proposed freeway construction will not only serve the average automobile user, but will also provide means for rapid bus operations between all points joined by the freeway system. Steps are now being taken to provide necessary legislation which will permit selling franchises for bus operations on terms which will collect from the bus operator a fair share of the construction and upkeep costs.

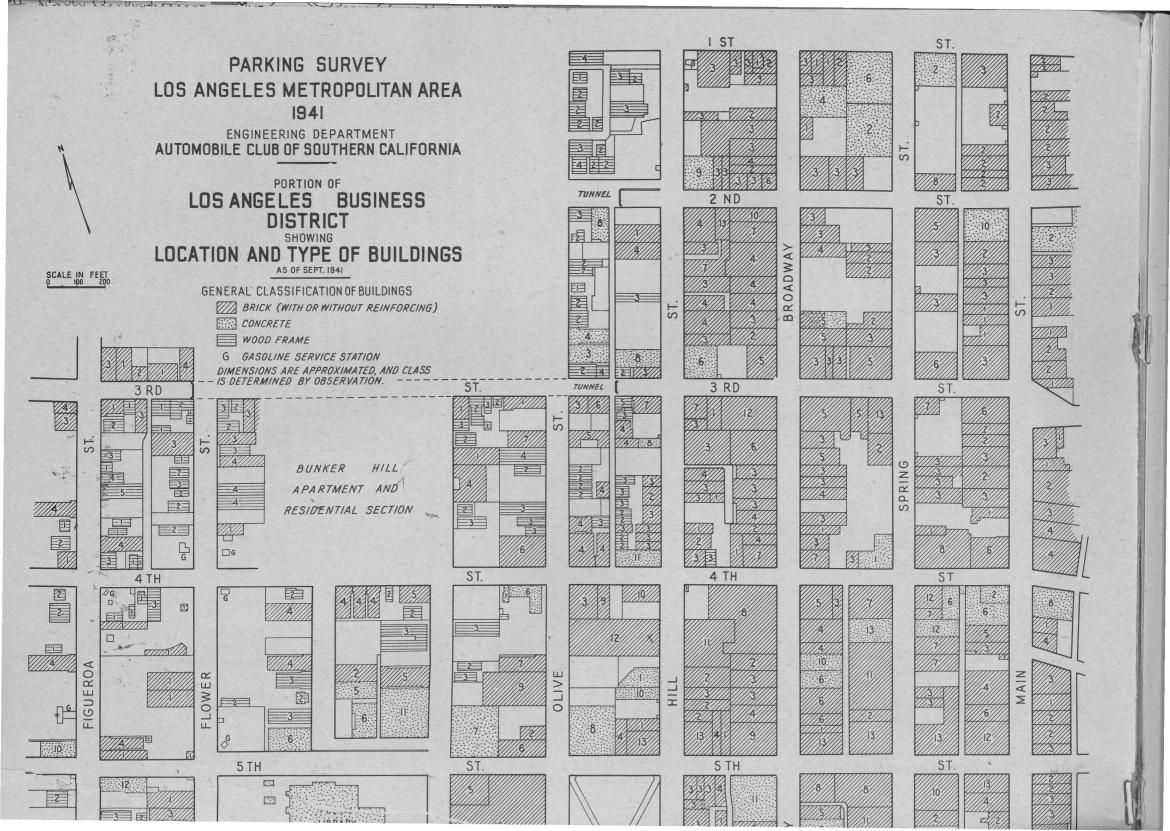
Everything possible should be done to take full advantage of the possibilities of Public Transportation, and much may be done to make it more attractive to prospective customers of the Downtown District; but **proper provision must be made** for the automobile user if the District is to get its fair share of the increase in business which will develop in the post-war period.

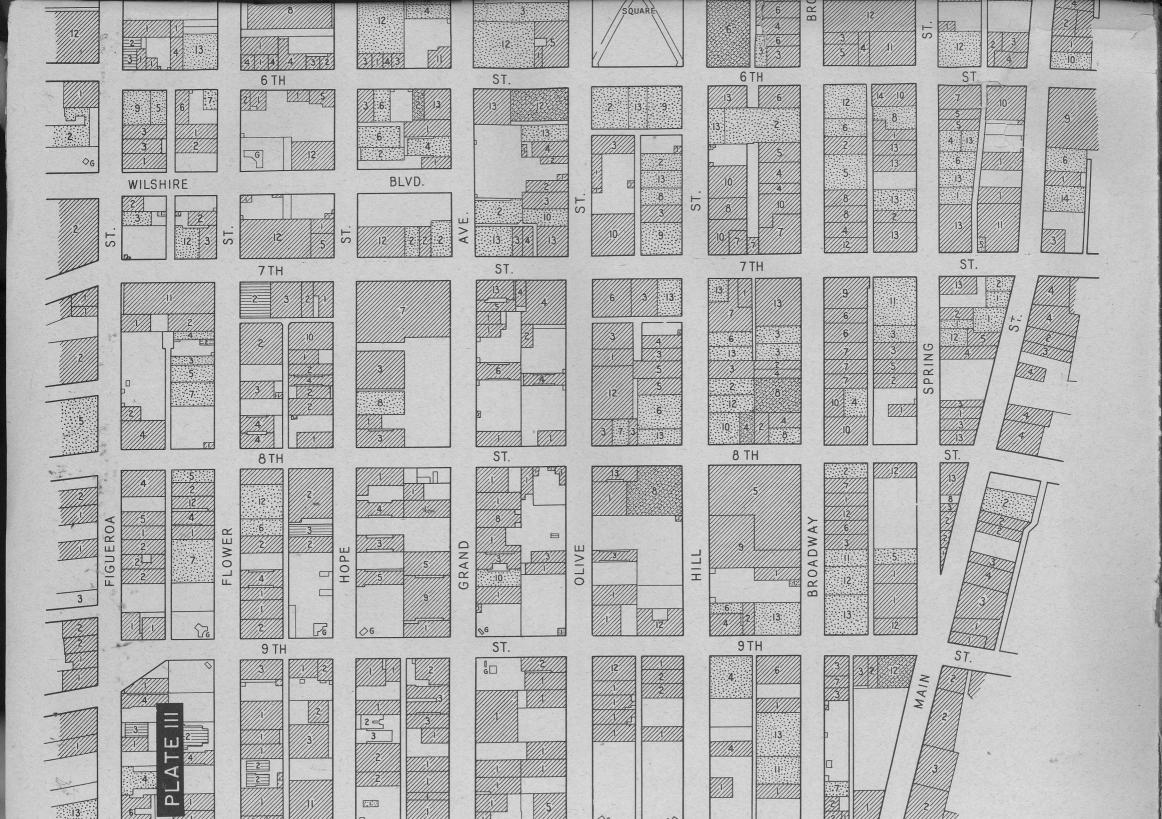
#### PARKING REQUIREMENTS

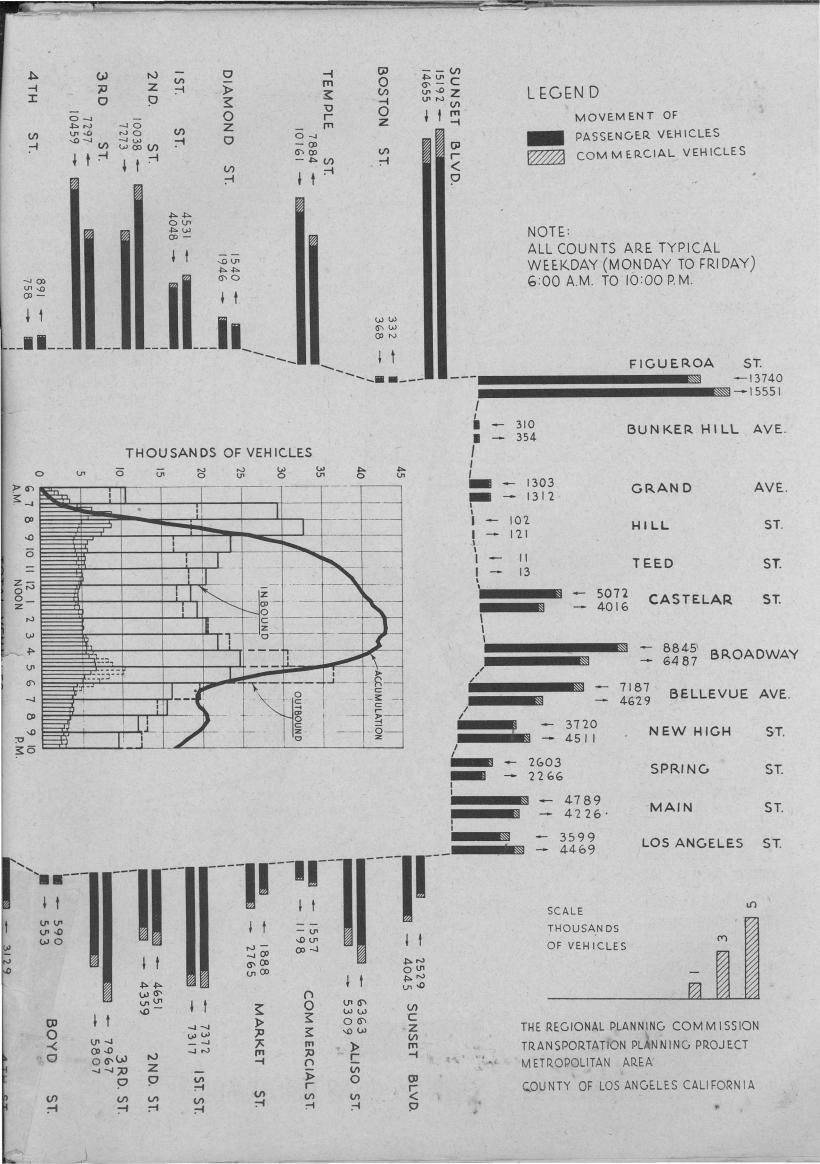
The problem of providing "terminal facilities" for automobiles in business districts is so common and so thoroughly known by everyone familiar with business development that no lengthy statement is required here to prove that a successful business district in Southern California must provide ample, well located, reasonably priced and permanent parking facilities for those who, through necessity or preference, use their automobiles for business transportation.

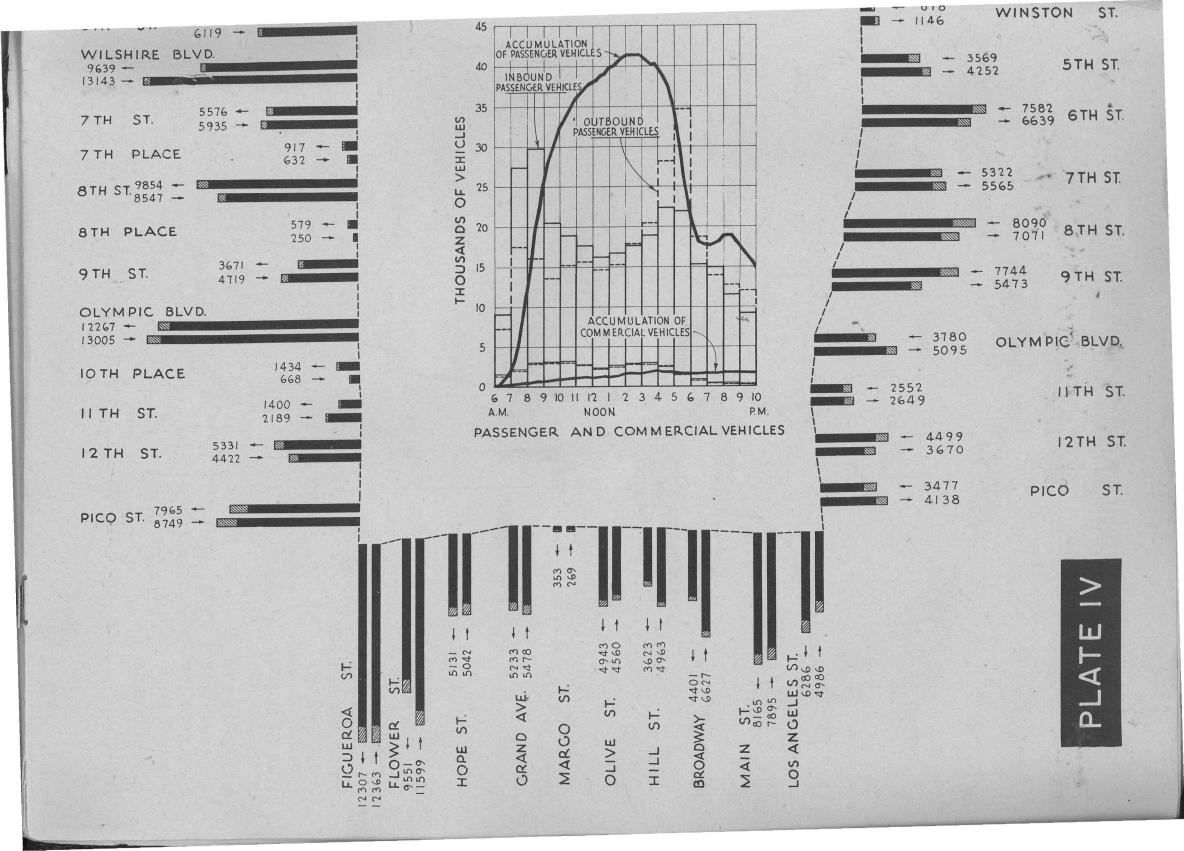
The business men and business property owners of the Downtown Business District should see to it that adequate parking accommodations, including a liberal ticket validating service provided by stores and offices, are made available to all who may wish to come downtown by automobile.

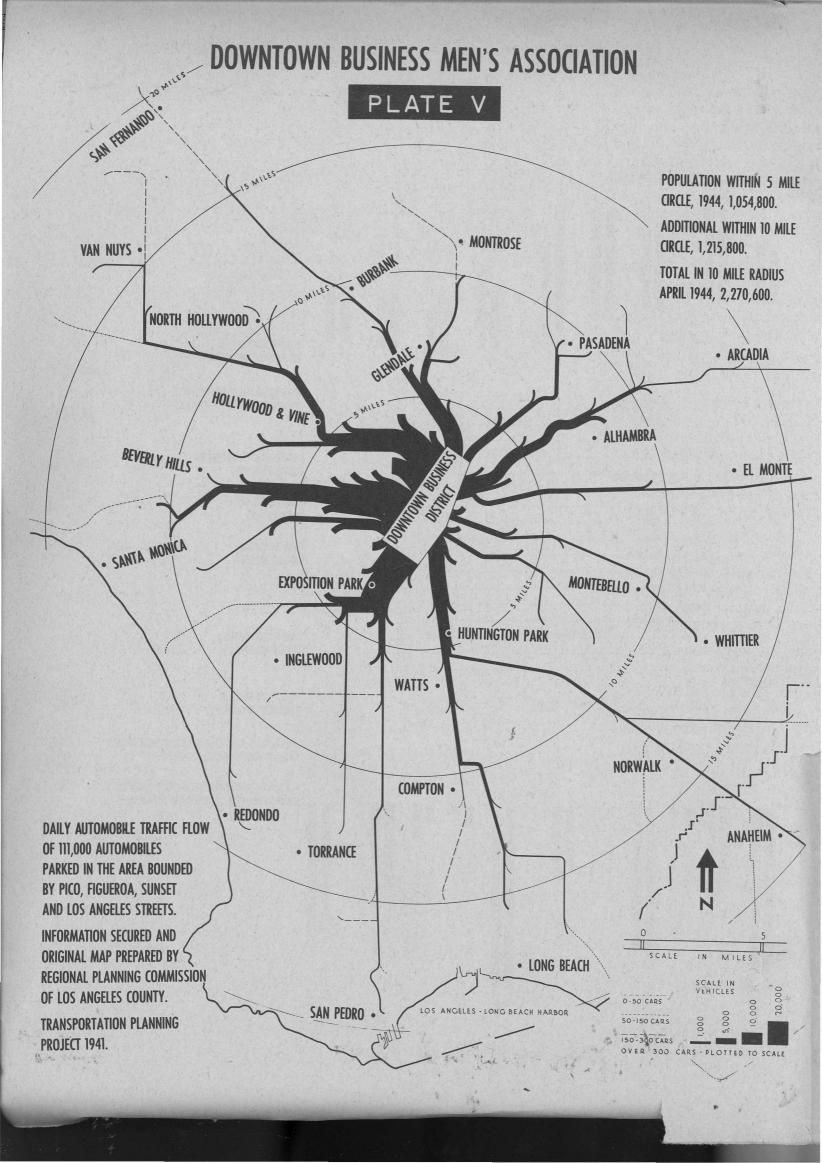
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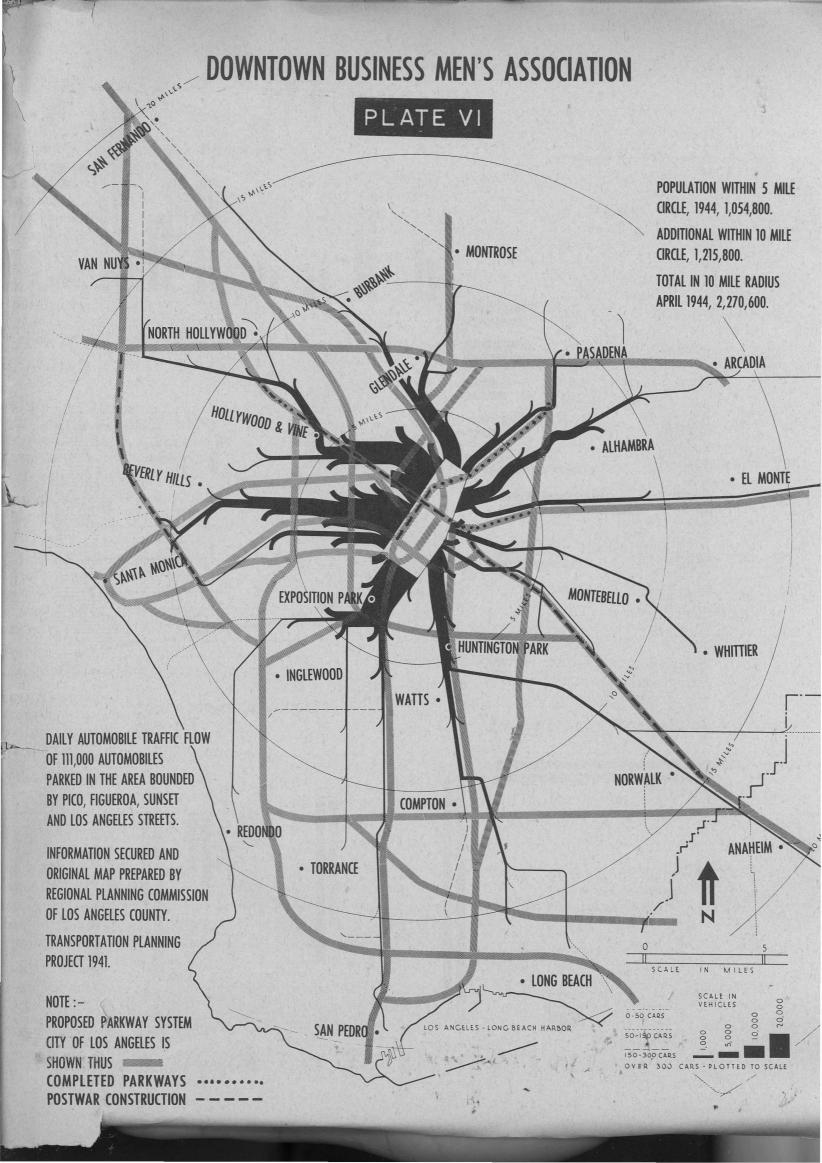












#### PARKING HABITS

A large proportion of parkers are willing to pay and accustomed to paying their own parking costs. For these groups described below it is only necessary to see that they are furnished adequate facilities, properly located and at reasonable and stable parking fees. There are, however, a considerable number who expect, and will demand, free parking if they shop regularly in the District.

Careful studies have been made to determine whether parking needs can be broken down by groups as a guide to a solution of the parking problem affecting the Downtown Business District. It is apparent that the following groups require different services.

- 1. The all-day parker. Owner, employer, executive, government official.
- 2. The all-day parker. Employee or other person requiring low-cost parking.
- 3. The short-time parker. Executive or salesman type, visiting banks, brokers, stores, professional offices, etc.
- 4. The short-time parker. Visiting governmental offices.
- 5. The short-time parker. Visiting stores, shops, professional offices, etc.
- 6. Theatre and hotel customers.

Members of group 1 either have private parking furnished them or are willing to pay from \$10.00 to \$20.00 per month per car parked, depending on location and service. Ticket validations are not necessary for this group.

Members of group 2 wish to get parking as close to their work as possible, but at costs of about \$3.00 per month. Ticket validations are not usually required for this group.

Members of group 3 desire parking in the center of the district, usually, and are willing to pay high rates for periods of one hour or even less. Charges of 25c to 35c will be paid by many in this group for short-time parking if the facilities are located within a few hundred feet of the parker's destination. Ticket validation is seldom necessary.

Members of group 4 desire parking space in or near the Civic Center, for the most part. Ticket validation is unnecessary.

Members of group 5 are typical shoppers who can and will go where parking and other services seem most desirable. About 80% are women, a large portion of whom desire to shop for at least two hours. Parking space near several large stores is desirable for this group. Ease of getting to and in and out of the parking lot or garage will offset the necessity of walking one or

two blocks in many cases. 'least one hour, preferably f

Members of group 5 presby any parking plan that mater the best customers of Dotat one time, handle their orgenerally buy the better grahand, they are in a position to any time they are dissatisfied

#### PLATE IV

PLATE IV, showing grapmade around the outer bound october, 1941, is of particulated studies of parked-car traffic l

It also is interesting and opoint of freeway location and

The purpose of a cordon vehicles entering and leavir riods of the day by way of a from north, south, east, and area at any time of day is in the center of the chart.

The accumulation at any cars: those which are passing have parked for all day or f

It is believed that much of area throughout the day values system is even partially cowidened between Figueroa a

#### PLATES V AN

PLATES V and VI are Mation furnished by the Reg a survey of 111,000 cars parking facilities within the Dov October, 1941. PLATE V should and masses, the points of oroute which would logically Downtown Area. On PLAT has been overlayed to show parked-car operators could built at that time. These traf with maps or figures covering sent only those cars parked cent of these cars originated within the 10-mile circle.

# ELES PARKING STUDY

et validation is expected for at longer period.

the chief problem to be solved proposed. On the average, they own Businesses. They buy more packages to a large extent and of merchandise. On the other ke their business to other centers th either traffic or parking con-

#### PAGE SEVEN

the results of cordon counts ries of the Downtown Area in interest in connection with the TES V and VI.

mely important from the standgn.

t is to determine the number of e area during the various pethe streets serving the district. The number of cars within the ted by the accumulation curves

e is made up of two groups of the district and those which torter periods of time.

traffic now passing through the go around when the freeway ted and Olympic Boulevard is os Angeles Streets.

#### I—PAGE EIGHT

arts prepared by us from infor-Planning Commission covering the curb and in off-street parkon Area on an average day in by the width of the black lines of these cars and the general ollowed by them to reach the the proposed freeway system roximately how many of the used freeways had they been we charts should not be confused automobile traffic. They reprete Area on one day. Sixty per in the five-mile circle and 86.9% ditions. As a whole, they demand free parking, which must be furnished or they will go elsewhere.

Members of group 6 are willing to pay comparatively high rates for evening or all-night parking. If a garage can be located close to first-class hotels and a busy opera house or legitimate theatre, the evening and night business can be counted upon to pay a considerable portion of the fixed costs, as illustrated on page 19.

A careful adjustment of parking facilities between these six groups should be worked out which will provide each of the groups with locations, services, and prices that will satisfy the greatest possible number.

#### PARKING FACILITIES 1941

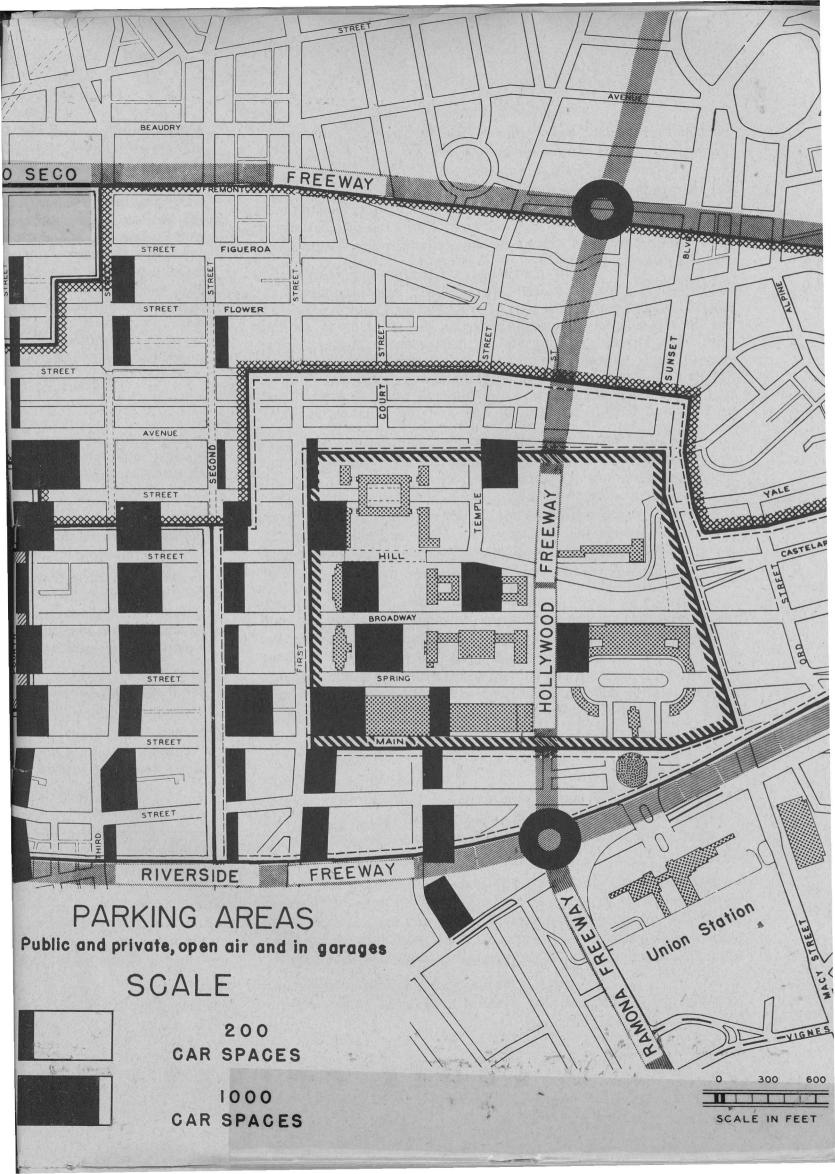
Present parking facilities in the Downtown District are the result of natural competitive business development. Parking lot operators have been quick to sense the locations in which parking facilities are needed and have increased or decreased the parking space offered at various points, in accordance with changing business conditions affecting automobile use, to the extent that building and land values would permit.

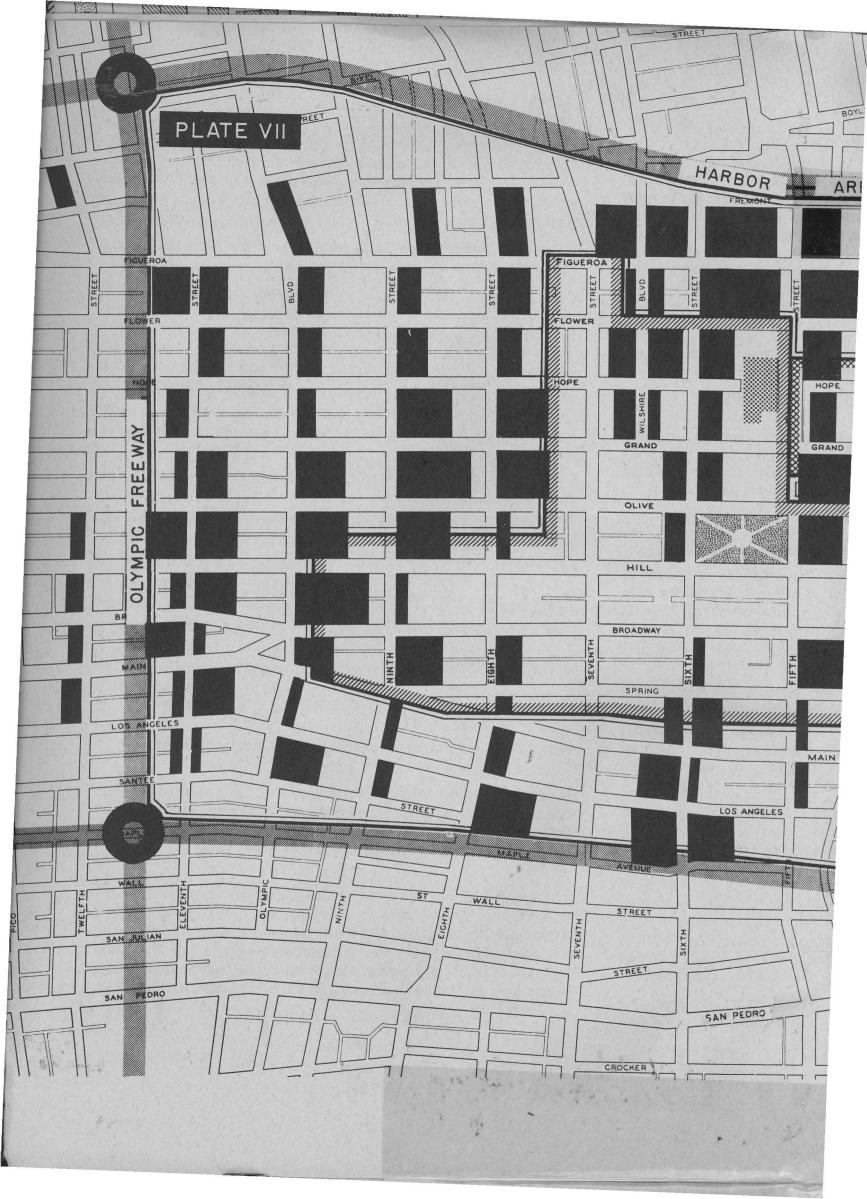
The result of this development is shown by PLATE VII, which indicates the blocks in which public parking in open-air lots or garages is offered, and the number of car spaces provided in each block. This information, compiled by the Regional Planning Commission of Los Angeles County in 1941, has been checked and found to be practically the same today. It shows 39,460 spaces available within the Downtown Area and approximately 7,885 additional spaces facing on its outer boundaries.

On an average business day in October, 1941, a check of all cars parked in these parking lots and garages was made. This check showed that the greatest number of parked cars in the spaces within the Downtown Area at any time on that day was 31,713, leaving a theoretical surplus of 7,747 spaces. The total number of cars parked in these off-street facilities during the day prior to 6:00 p.m. was 83,534. Of these at least 12,271 parked for the entire day. These all-day parkers used 31% of all the spaces available within the Downtown Area.

Of these 12,271 spaces used by all-day parkers at least 4,747 spaces were in parking lots or garages most desirable for short-time parkers in groups 3 and 5. Had these spaces been used for short-time parking to the same degree that other spaces in the same lots were used, 12,418 additional short-time parkers could have been served. Based on 306 business days per year, 3,799,908 additional downtown customers could have been accommodated.

(Continued on Page Eleven)





While the map and above information indicate that there were available in the area on an average day more parking spaces than were used, it is probable that most of the excess spaces were in lots in undesirable locations which would be used only as a last resort by business customers or possibly during special sales or other events.

The foregoing text and PLATE VII indicate that there was a reasonable number of parking spaces available in the Downtown Area in October, 1941, to meet the demands of that period, but it is apparent that the best use was not being made of the available facilities, and careful study of present-day operations indicates that conditions are worse today than they were in 1941.

Based on these operations and records, it may be said that the following conditions are adversely affecting Downtown parking.

- 1. Parking space suitable for short-time parkers is used for all-day parking to a serious degree.
- 2. Prices (except those under war control) are unstable and confuse customers.
- 3. Parking places are mostly poorly kept, are unsightly, and are partially used for minor businesses which are objectionable in many ways.
- 4. Due to the great number of owners of parking lots and garages, customers are not referred to unfilled parking spaces by operators whose facilities are completely used.
- 5. Service rendered by parking lot attendants is seldom up to the standards set by modern businesses patronized by parking customers.

If the conditions above described were eliminated and only the present facilities operated at maximum efficiency, nearly four million more customers could be given good parking service than were served inadequately in 1941. It should be possible, however, to do more than correct the conditions mentioned by careful redistribution of the parking facilities now available.

# TYPES AND LOCATION OF PARKING FACILITIES STUDIED

In the preparation of this report we have endeavored to familiarize ourselves with all practical means of providing space. Among those considered are the following:

- 1. Open-air lots designed for self parking.
- 2. Open-air lots designed for attendant parking.
- 3. Garages in remodeled structures available in the area.
- 4. Garages underground.

- 5. Garages above ground, close three, and four stories.
- 6. One floor structure above pr
- 7. Garages with automatic hig service.
- 8. Open-air or garage facilities business district for walking, bus or street car service thro
- 9. Garages especially designed a freeway in buildings developed those in which part of the spuses.
- 10. Garages of normal design of other normal business uses.

While time did not permit an the plans listed, the following cor

- 1. Open-air lots designed for twice the ground space per car the parking. Hence the difficulty in Downtown Los Angeles is that parfarther out than would be practically considerable number of space. Cost of operation is much minimized, but land costs are at parking.
- 2. Open-air lots designed for most practical means of adequate can be had at reasonable costs an of pedestrian traffic centers.

#### PLATE VII

Superimposed on the map use indicating the number of park available for use in each city ble having less than 100 car spaces blocks from left to right indica discrepancies in the number of to the number in sight is due to unnoticed by the casual observarea used for parking in the bless Broadway, and Hill is only also shown by the map. The remaining floors of garages. Basic informating Commission.

# LES PARKING STUDY

d open construction of two,

nt parking lots.

peed elevator and handling

points too distant from the be provided with free special the business district.

handle traffic directly from wholly to garage use and is devoted to other business

fined with office building or

haustive investigation of all ents will be of interest.

self parking use more than would be needed for attendant aking use of such a plan for ing lots would be forced much from a service standpoint if were provided in this manwer and traffic congestion is ast double that for attendant

attendant parking offer the rking, provided enough space within easy walking distances

#### AGE TEN

n PLATE I are blocks in black spaces, open-air or garage, in October, 1941. City blocks re left blank. Width of black number of spaces. Apparent aces in some blocks compared rage space which usually goes For instance, the total land a bounded by Ninth, Olympic, e more than half the amount number of spaces are on upper on furnished by Regional Plan-

As above noted, more cars can be parked per lot of given size, at least double the number possible on a self-parking lot and about 75% more than can be parked per floor of the same area in a standard type garage. Costs of operation lie between that of self-parking lots and the garage type of service. The public generally seems to prefer open-air parking, which tends to increase turnover in these facilities.

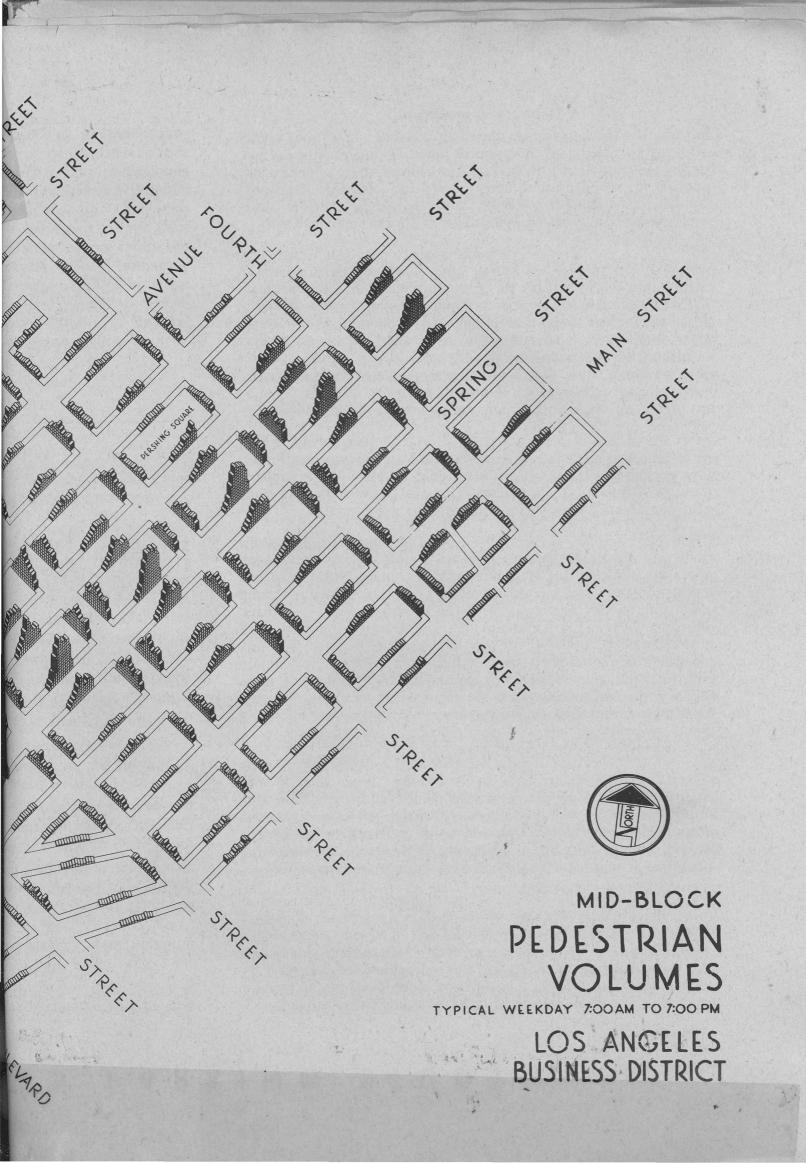
- 3. Serious thought has been given to the possibility of remodeling existing buildings in the Business Parking District for use exclusively as garages. Here the difficulty is chiefly that these structures were not designed to carry the loads which the building code demands for garage structures, about 125 pounds per square foot of floor space. There may be some buildings which can be so used, and further investigation will be made.
- 4. Underground garages such as that constructed under Union Square in San Francisco offer some very interesting possibilities. Where an entire block is available, thus providing access on all four sides, a larger number of cars may be handled without undue traffic congestion. Building costs appear to be about one and one-half to two times the cost of open-air or skeleton type garages built above ground. One important advantage over other garages is the increased speed with which cars can be moved out during the rush period. This is due to the fact that attendants can slide down "firemen's" poles and drive the car up, while in the above-ground type slower elevator service up to the car floors causes considerable delay.

Underground construction on a large scale faces some difficulty in disposing of the large amounts of ground excavated. Normally, the most practical use of this type of facility would be in connection with public property, as otherwise rates would probably be prohibitive.

5. Garages above ground are somewhat standardized and can be considered on the basis of known facts. Many garages have proved to be business failures because they were built too high, thus increasing the average time of customer waiting unreasonably. Best advices seem to be that four stories up or down is the maximum that should be considered, and fewer stories are better in many cases. Reliable building engineers estimate that reinforced concrete garage buildings of skeleton type four stories in height could have been built before the war at not to exceed \$2.00 per square foot of floor space.

It is probable that lower costs could be secured in buildings of fewer stories. As noted above, garages require much greater gross floor space per car parked than is required on the ground, hence ground costs for open-air parking of nearly \$4.00 per square foot are approximately equal to building costs, only, of \$2.00 per square foot. When costs of operation are taken into consideration

(Continued on Page Thirteen)



O.P. Nº 165-1-07-246

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VIIMIN

#### PLATE VIII

A W

Hourly pedestrian traffic flow at block centers in Downtown Business District. Compare with PLATE IX, showing all-day traffic for both sides of street in each block.

It will be noted from the legend accompanying the map that reading from left to right each column of blocks indicates one hour of time while each block in height indicates 500 pedestrians passing the center of the block; hence the complete mass of the pyramid in the center of each block indicates the total pedestrian flow for the twelve-hour period between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., while the height of each column indicates the traffic flow for one hour only.

Note how accurately the traffic habits of pedestrians are reflected by the hourly flow at various points. For instance, the 5:00 to 6:00 o'clock peak traffic on streets leading to Pershing Square Bus Depot, the Pacific Electric Rail and Bus Depot and, to a lesser extent, the Pacific Electric Subway Depot on Hill Street. Investigation indicates that a large part of the pedestrian flow to and from the Subway Terminal Building was not counted, due to the fact that a great deal of traffic goes directly across Hill Street and does not traverse the block, Fourth to Fifth Streets on

Traffic on Hill and Broadway from Third to Fourth, caused largely by the Grand Central Market, is also reflected, particularly between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m.

WISHIPF SIX HARDEN THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PROJECT METROPOLITAN AREA PREPARED ON WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

there is a further advantage in open-air parking. In general, operating costs for garage parking under best conditions will be from one to four cents per car parked more than the handling cost in open-air attendant parking.

Due consideration must be given to the location of any parking facility in its effect on street traffic. Lots or garages having two or more entrances or exits are most desirable in order to give good service and at the same time permit prohibition of left-hand turns or other measures to prevent street traffic congestion. This factor alone tends to prohibit the use of large garage buildings in congested traffic areas, as, frequently, they must use a single street and a single opening for their customer traffic.

Some consideration has been given to combining garages with adjoining open-air lots. Such a plan would provide many advantages in handling cars within the parking area and in and out of the street.

- 6. Engineers are investigating for us the possibility of erecting an all-steel deck over a large part of suitable parking lots. Such a plan, if feasible, would provide from 50% to 70% additional car space at a minimum cost and thus permit rapid expansion of parking space in the close-in areas as business increases.
- 7. Several types of automatic or semi-automatic garages have been considered. These plans usually propose a skeleton type structure with high-speed automatic elevators which will pick up a car, select a vacant stall and shunt the car to that space, reversing the movement when the car is desired by the owner. Variations provide for more manual and less automatic handling. Investigation shows that costs would probably be about \$3,200.00 per car space, including land and equipment, in close-in locations. Such a cost would demand exceedingly rapid turnover at relatively high charges to meet investment and operating costs.
- 8. A plan is in use in St. Louis, and probably in other cities, under which garages and parking lots too far from the business district to be practical for walking are combined with special free bus or street car service in the parking fee. Such a plan could be used for Downtown Los Angeles. Its advantage lies in the possibility of using inexpensive land. Its greatest drawbacks are the traffic congestion on the streets at the afternoon rush period, caused by the large number of buses or street cars that would be needed, and the possible dislike by customers of mixing automobile and bus service in their shopping trips. If costs could be kept low enough, this plan should be extremely popular with all-day parkers.
- 9. Garages designed to handle traffic directly from a freeway would, in general, take on the characteristics of other garages

mentioned. The greatest care wor tieups in internal car movement freeway.

None of the freeways now plasso located as to provide good loc for possible all-day parkers alon for space per car probably would ordinary garages, due to the spec

10. Combining garages with cost problem which is difficult to floor or possibly two floors can be creasing the general cost of the kin with other uses on upper floor building costs, due to the greater

Another serious disadvantage lies without decreasing the usefulness ing, thus increasing its net cost for combination of an open-air parking and other building purposes may of the parking needs of the dis

It is our thought that no one depended upon to provide all no but that several plans may be f service demands.

#### IMPROVEMENTS IN

While the principal factors is for downtown customers are land fees, there are other factor developing an ideal parking pla

One of these is the appeara of its immediate surrounding given by attendants at parking

PLATE XII shows a photoglot indicating the general appin the district. PLATE XIII which practical changes are su will cost from \$15 to \$35 per caditions, the carrying charge parking fees and should be modisfaction of patrons and their Downtown Business District.

Such improvements on proleases of sufficient length to

## ES PARKING STUDY

ave to be taken to prevent eating traffic jams on the

d for early construction is as for such garages except the Harbor Freeway. Costs somewhat higher than for raffic conditions mentioned.

inary buildings presents a e. Portions of one basement ed without unreasonably ining, but garage space mixed atomatically increases total is garage floors must carry.

roviding ample access ramps the ground floor of the buildther purposes. Here again a and handling area with garage found which will meet some

of parking facility should be sary service for the district, d useful in meeting differing

#### ARKING SERVICE

oviding satisfactory parking ion (distance to destination) of considerable importance in

of the property used and that nother is the kind of service and garages.

h of a busy downtown parking nce of the better parking lots is a sketch of the same lot in sted. While such improvements ace, depending on varying consmall item in the necessary an balanced by the greater satird-of-mouth advertising of the

lots can be made only if term it amortization of the cost can

be obtained, or if property owners can be found who will make the improvements and include the cost in rental charges. In our recommendations suggestions are made for carrying out an improvement program in a practical manner.

Parking lot employees are an important factor in customer satisfaction. While it may be difficult under war conditions to improve the personal service given in most lots and garages, it will be possible under post-war conditions to develop an employee personnel which will be a great asset to the district. Simple, clean uniforms and unfailing courtesy will do much toward encouraging more and more patronage of Downtown Businesses. In our recommendations, further reference is made to this phase of the problem.

#### IMPROVED VALIDATING SERVICE

In the foregoing pages of this report we have dealt with parking conditions in the district as they existed in 1941, and the layout of parking facilities and suggestions for their use have been based on the assumption that the number of users of automobile parking spaces within the district in the comparatively normal month of October, 1941, was the maximum number who would have come to the district by automobile if better parking facilities had been provided, and if stores and other businesses, generally, had validated parking tickets for their customers and clients on an adequate basis.

Our studies of parking validations by stores indicate that a little over two million parking tickets were validated by stores in the district in 1941 as compared with approximately 21,300,000 short-time parkers using off-street parking facilities during the year. The ratio of parking tickets validated to total sales made by the stores issuing the validations was approximately \$90.00 per ticket.

Contrasted with this average, one store with more adequate facilities and a liberal validating policy validated one ticket for approximately each \$25.00 of total sales. If a group of stores in the district who cater to the medium- or high-priced trade, with total sales of only \$100,000,000 per year, had furnished similar accommodations, the resulting number of validations would have been 4,000,000 for the year or approximately 2,000,000 more than were validated by all stores in the district.

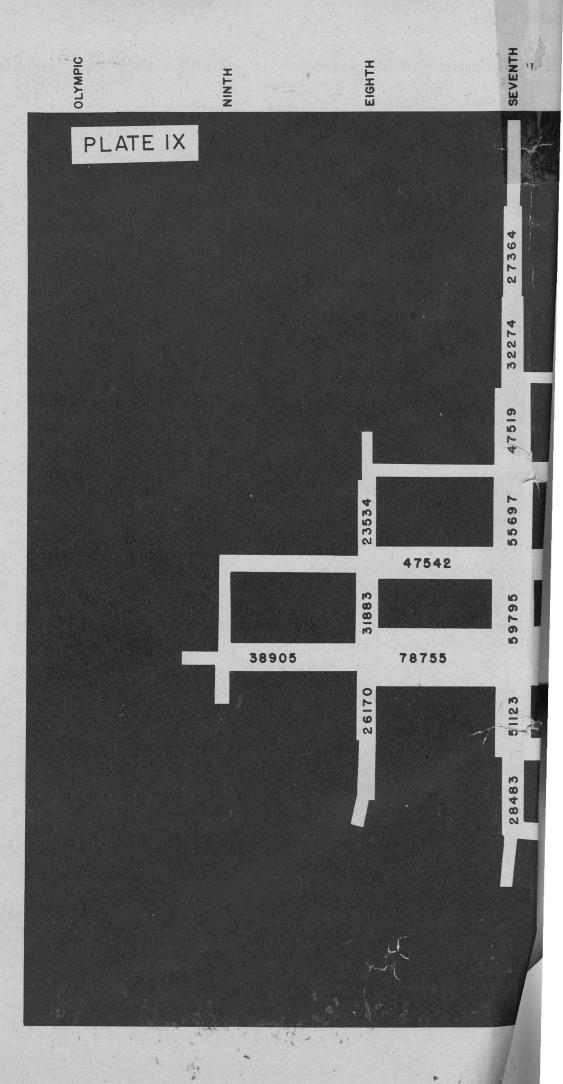
While we cannot be sure that a net increase of 2,000,000 more shoppers' cars would have been brought into the district by this means, it would seem evident that had a concerted effort along this line been made by most of the stores and offices, such a result could have been attained under 1941 conditions.

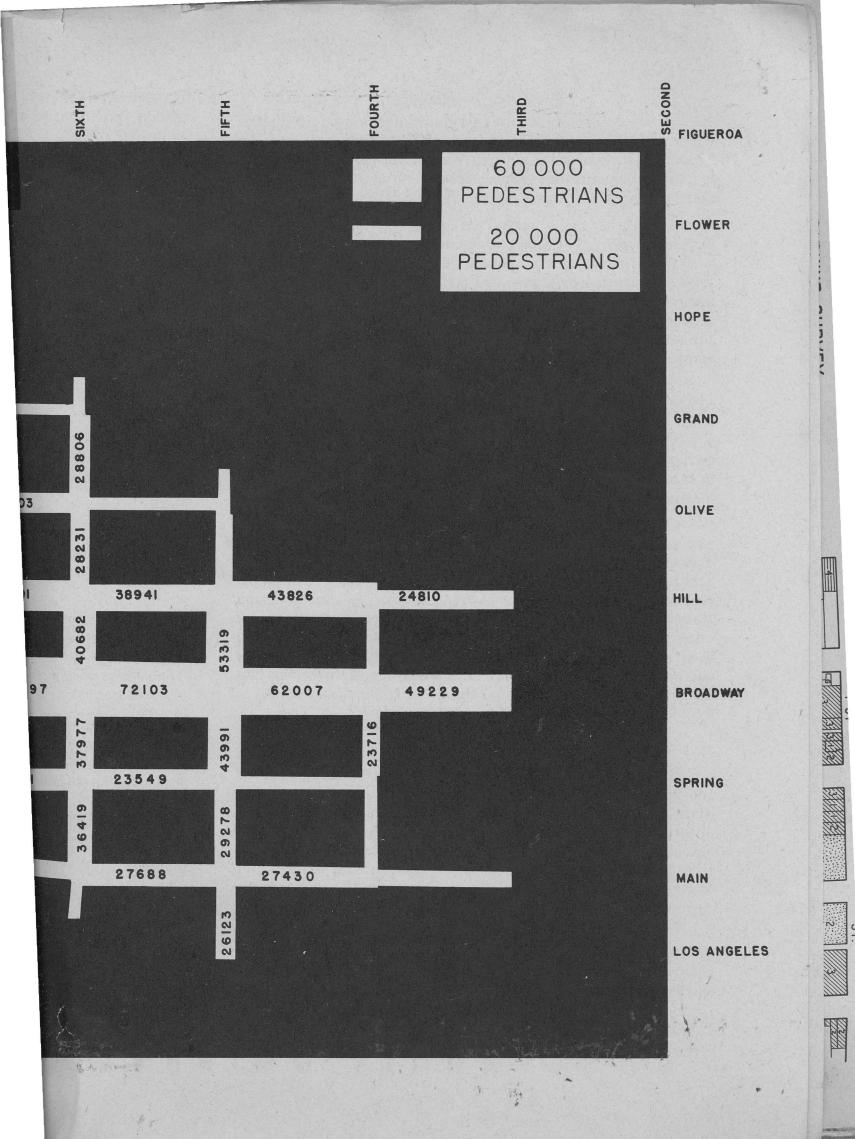
(Continued on Page Fifteen)

#### PLATE IX

Width of white masses paralelng street lines indicates the total aily pedestrian traffic flow at block enters for all day on an average ay in the fall of 1941. Traffic on oth sides of the street has been ombined. The minimum traffic hown is 15,000. Actual figures are iven for all blocks having 23,000 r more pedestrians during the day.

Basic information furnished by Regional Planning Comission. See PLATE VIII and caption for comparison. In general, the observations made with reference to hourly raffic flow apply to the total daily low shown on this PLATE.





#### **Section Two**

#### LOCATION OF PARKING FACILITIES

# REDISTRIBUTION OF 1941 PARKING FACILITIES

An interesting guide to proper location of parking lots is pedestrian traffic flow, as, in general, automobile users wish to go where other pedestrians go, and in about the same proportions. PLATES VIII and IX illustrate graphically pedestrian traffic flow in the Downtown District by hours and for all day, as it was found at the time of the survey made by the Regional Planning Commission in 1941.

Traffic considerations and property values prevent a simple solution of the automobile parking problem. It is obviously desirable to provide a series of parking facilities which will furnish ample accommodations within minimum walking distances of heavy traffic centers and which will, at the same time, have good access to the principal streets and freeways. By reference to PLATE VII it will be seen that present parking lots and garages follow only roughly the pedestrian traffic flow, and the quantity of parking space available to the Business District leans heavily to the west and south.

Reference to the Parked Car Traffic Flow chart, PLATE V, shows in part the reason for this condition. Traffic of parked cars from the south and west is extremely heavy, and with the heavy traffic flow on east and west streets, it is difficult for these automobile users to drive to parking lots on the north or east sides of the Business District.

This condition will be remedied by construction of the free-ways now being planned, as illustrated by PLATE VI, and by the completion of the Olympic Boulevard widening project, scheduled for immediate post-war construction. With the construction of the Hollywood-Ramona Freeway and the completion of the Harbor-Arroyo Seco Freeway to Olympic Boulevard, it will be possible for many of the automobile users from the northwest, north, west, and southwest to drive directly and with a minimum of delay or traffic inconvenience to the parking places most convenient for their use. As these are among the freeways which are scheduled for construction immediately after the war, any parking plan prepared at this time should be based on conditions as they may be found after this construction is completed.

Studies made by the Regional Planning Commission, and shown by PLATE VII, indicate that a total in round figures of

40,000 car spaces were available in plan to meet present and future a number as a minimum, with such may seem advisable.

As shown by PLATE VII, appropried of the area north of Secondary were used principally by those has District, leaving approximately 33 District to the south and west. Plaspaces should have been distributed by the locations shown on this map be ence to property values and import on the assumption that the Hill I for parking.

As parking plans must be based PLATE XI, has been prepared to ing spaces rearranged to use le more level parts of the district. be in the Hill District have been el by 2,500 car spaces in the Pershi

As previously noted, the steep vent placing the proper number west of Hill Street and north of capacity indicated located in the remedy this condition to a consider ous hotels and theaters within eaction evening and night patronage.

There is, of course, a limit to which can be rented at the rates in such a garage, but it is believe point could be profitably used.

An intensive study is now be portation, highway, legal, and f use of the underground space fo be made within a short time.

The only practical alternative garage purposes would be the boof smaller garages as near this traffic conditions would allow.

Suitable properties, apparer square foot and, as shown by garages not exceeding four stores.

# ES PARKING STUDY

ober, 1941, and any parking itions can be based on this itions for future growth as

nately 7,000 car spaces were street in 1941. These spaces business in the Civic Center spaces to serve the Business E X shows how these 33,000 d, in accordance with the ATE IX, for ideal service. been selected without referements, and also are based rict is a level area available

actual conditions, the chart, w the same number of park-expensive properties in the se shown by PLATE IX to inated and partially replaced square block.

ades of the Hill District preparking spaces in the area fth Street. A garage of the ershing Square block would ble extent. There are numerwalking distance, to provide

ne number of parking spaces would be necessary to charge nat 2,500 spaces located at this

made of traffic, public transncial conditions affecting the his purpose, and a report will

o the use of this location for ling of a considerable number ation as property values and

, would cost about \$20.00 per e tables on pages 19 and 21, in height (the maximum height in which good service can be given) built on such property require extremely high rates per day per car space to meet the capital expense. This is true even assuming a building cost of \$1.50 per square foot, a rate which has not been attained under the present building code.

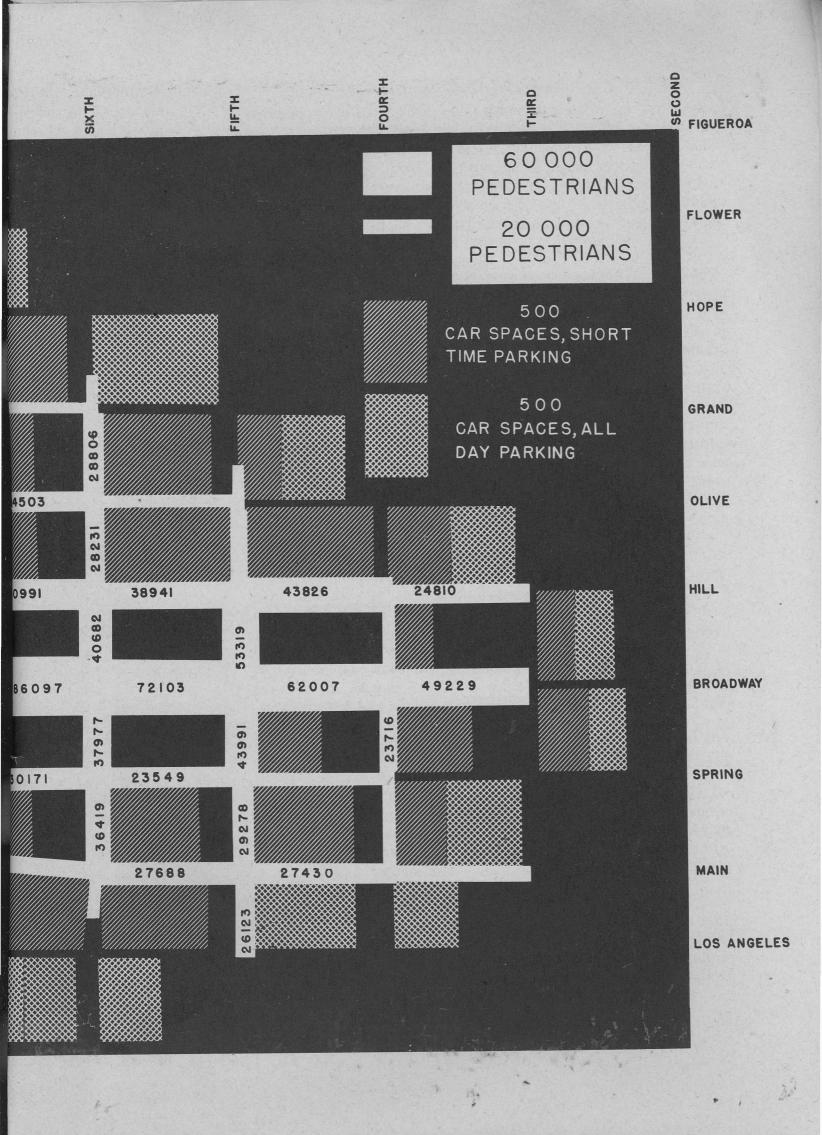
On PLATE XI we have shown more spaces to the west and south than is indicated by pedestrian traffic flow, in order to provide a greater proportion of spaces for all-day parking on cheaper property. To the all-day parker a walk of a few blocks is not so important as to a shopper whose walking time automatically becomes a part of the parking time. Turnover in parking is accelerated by reducing walking time for short-time parkers, while low land values are most important in placing all-day parking lots.

If parking lots placed approximately as shown are segregated between the various groups of users, as previously described, it is believed that considerably more business could and would be carried on in the district by automobile users than was true in 1941 or is true under present war conditions. In 1941, as noted previously, a large number of close-in parking spaces were used by all-day parkers, thus forcing short-time parkers into parking places unsuitable for their use or causing them to go to other business centers.

Under post-war conditions parking fees and the hours at which certain auto parks are opened in the morning can be arranged to automatically prevent all-day parkers encroaching on those facilities designed for short-time parkers. So long as the war lasts and the O.P.A. maintains the present rate structure, probably, the only segregation that can be made is to close parking lots most desirable for short-time parkers until about 9:30 a.m. daily, which would have the effect of preventing all-day parkers from monopolizing close-in spaces. Parking lot operators who have been approached regarding such operations have been reluctant to set up such a plan, partly because of the expense of providing necessary fencing and gates, and partly through fear of losing some of their gross business. Suggestions contained in our recommendations for immediate action offer a possible solution to this phase of the problem.

In our suggestions for redistributing present parking facilities we have not included those used by employees and patrons in the Civic Center District. There appears to be reasonable opportunity to expand these facilities as required by the increased demand which is certain to follow the normal expansion of population in city and county. As the Civic Center buildings are extended west to Hill and Olive Streets, some of the property in

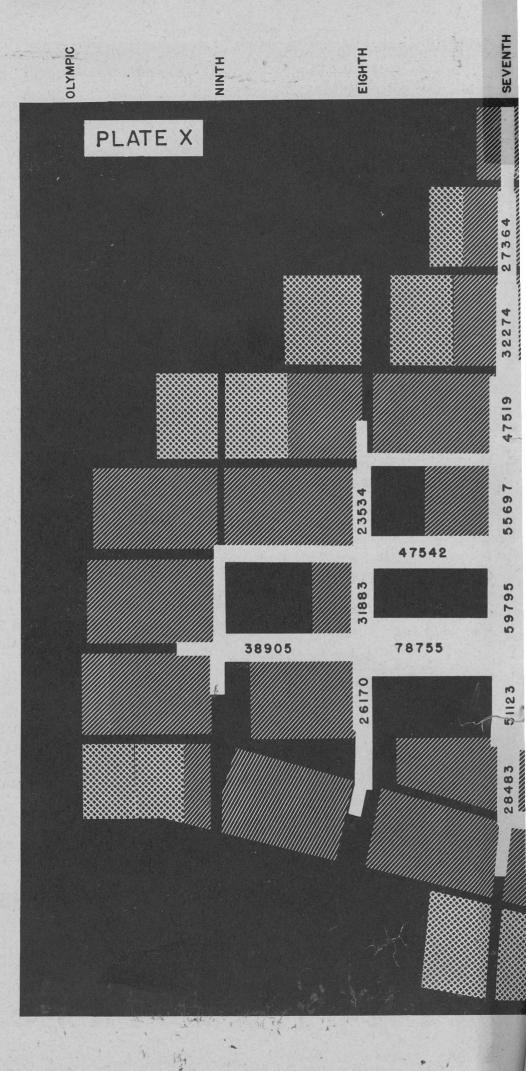
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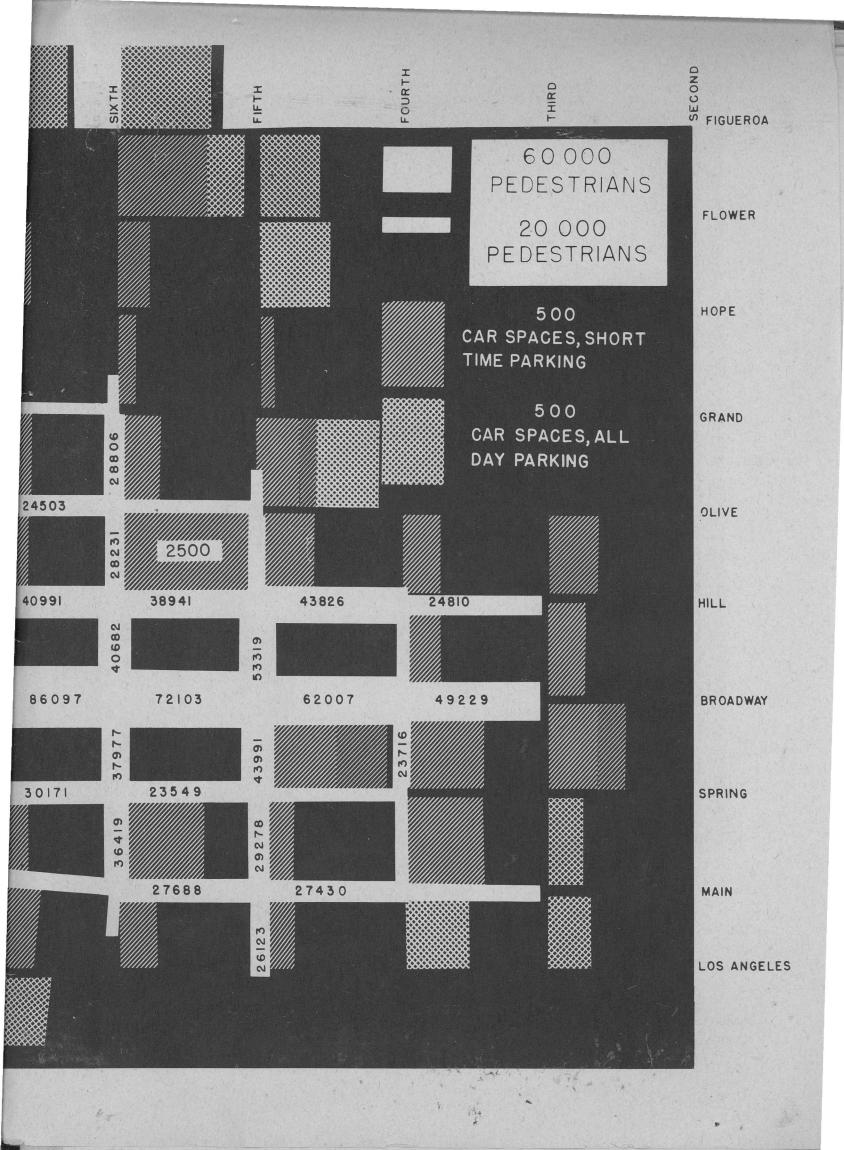


This chart shows, superimposed on the chart used in PLATE IX, the number of parking spaces shown south of Second Street and between Los Angeles and Figueroa Streets on PLATE VII (33,000). Short-time and all-day spaces have been allocated in the proportions used, as found by the 1941 survey.

The arrangement is idealistic and approximately what might be done if there were no physical or other barriers of any kind to prevent placing parking lots where desired.

Daily pedestrian traffic flow was used as a guide to determine approximate needs in various parts of the area. It is obvious that those blocks having the heaviest pedestrian traffic are, for the most part, used for the business which produces the traffic, hence no parking space is shown in them, but is shown as close and in the proportion that existing pedestrian traffic will allow. Placing of parking spaces was also governed by a desire to hold down automobile traffic in the blocks having heavy pedestrian traffic, leaving as much street space as possible available for public transportation vehicles.



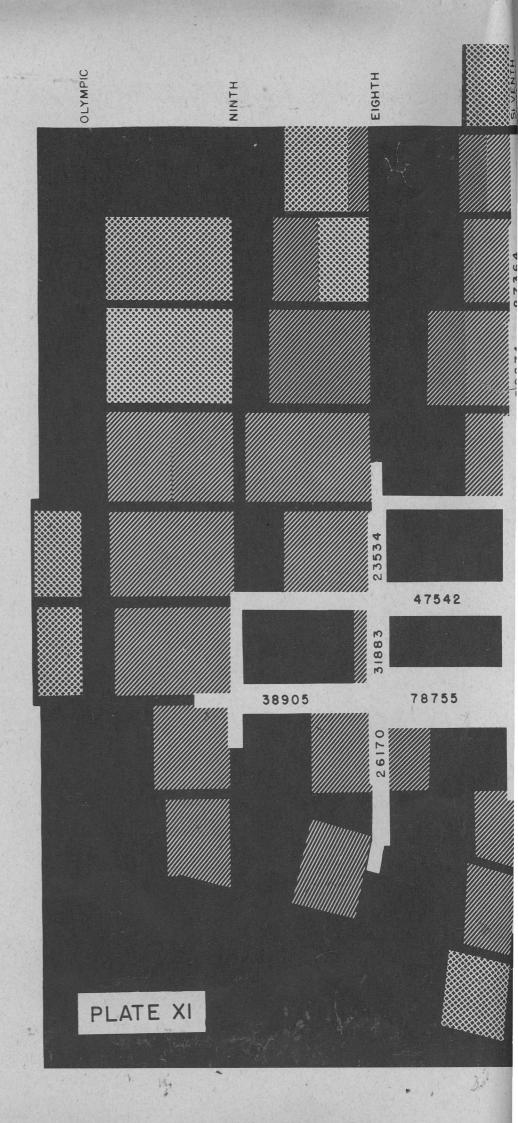


#### PLATE XI

This chart shows, superimposed on the chart used in PLATE IX, what appears to be the most practical present arrangement of the 33,000 parking spaces shown more ideally placed on PLATE X.

Careful comparisons between PLATES X and XI will show how far short of the ideal arrangement the practical one must be if any consideration is given to costs of securing the necessary amount of space.

While approximately 10,000 spaces for all-day parking are placed in the outer rim of parking places shown, it is assumed that some of these parkers will be accommodated in close-in garages. The numbers of spaces indicated in some of the Business District blocks are due to existing garages in those blocks, as indicated on PLATE VII. In the detailed plan 500 additional all-day parking spaces are allocated to the block bounded by Fourth, Fifth, Olive, and Grand, due to available garage space which cannot be shown on the scale used.







the Hill District not now usable for parking space will become available, and will be provided by private parties under normal conditions.

Consideration should be given to providing a reasonable amount of garage space underground under the parks and buildings of the Civic Center. It is probable that such space would be leased by private operators if given such an opportunity and that rents could be charged the operators which would return the garages to the governmental agency involved, clear of any encumbrance, within a 50-year period.

# Section Three OPERATING COSTS

#### OPERATING COST DISTRIBUTION

In developing a general parking plan for the Downtown Business District, careful consideration should be given to capital and operating costs, and the rates to be charged by the various kinds of parking facilities to be provided, keeping in mind the conditions involved in serving all groups wishing to park in the district, as outlined on page 9.

Cost items can be divided between space expense and handling expense, as they are differently affected by various factors in the parking business. Properly combined, they reflect the fees which should be charged under varying conditions.

Rents or capital carrying costs are a fixed charge against the entire space on land or in buildings and are not affected by the number of cars parked daily. Costs of light, heat, telephone, advertising, etc., also are fixed and do not vary materially with the number of cars handled.

Handling and management costs, on the other hand, vary in almost exact proportion to the number of cars handled daily, provided the minimum number parked is large enough to develop minimum operating costs.

Rent or capital carrying costs vary with location and type of facility operated. Rent per car space for a plot of ground on which attendants park all cars will be much less than if the same plot is used as a "park-your-own" lot, in which case approximately twice as much space will be needed per car parked, and the rent or capital cost per space will be approximately doubled.

If the same plot is used as a garage site, an entirely different set of fixed costs per parking space will develop, due to space used for ramps, elevators, columns, and walls, and frequently space used for more elaborate services to customers. Handling costs vary in accordiven in open-air lots or in garapark all cars, the handling cost than if customers park their chandle 100 or more cars per day dred may be handled under the state of the s

Handling costs are primaril. Hence the more that cars are croquent movement to let cars in a car. Sometimes the cost per car due to the greater distances was times a considerable saving in made by taking advantage of the to get in the car while it is still panating handling a large part of the during the outgoing rush hours.

Garage handling costs present going cost examples. Time const the car to its owner is still the print be given, such as cleaning, dusting tem of parking tickets is usually a quire more cashiers, supervisors, cars handled.

Total costs of operation invihandling costs and rent or carry

#### PARKING CO

Following are tables showing dling charges for garages and ope Handling costs shown do not processed to the cowding.

TABI

300-Car, 4-Story Garage Built Land, 21,000 square feet at \$20.00 Building 84,000 square feet at \$2

Total investment per car

Fixed Capital (

Interest, 6%
Taxes, 3%
Building depreciation, 2%
Amortization, land and building,
Upkeep and repairs

# LES PARKING STUDY

ance with the type of service s. On a plot where attendants yill obviously be much larger n. While one attendant may der the first plan, several hunond plan by one attendant.

a matter of employee time. ded on a lot, thus causing freout, the greater the cost per andled is more on larger lots, ed by the attendants. Some-indling costs on open lots is atural desire of the customer ted and drive it out, thus elimicars by attendants, especially

a simple variation of the forened in parking and returning ipal factor. More services may etc., and a more elaborate sysquired which, in turn, may reand other helpers per unit of

ve a proper apportioning of g costs.

#### T TABLES

approximate capital and hanair lots at various land values. de for extra costs due to over-

n Expensive Close-in Land:

0\$	420,000.00 168,000.00
\$	588,000.00
pace	1,960.00
to Por Voor	

sts Per Year	
\$	35,280.00
	17,640.00
	3,360.00

11,760.00 1,000.00

69,040.00

Fixed Operating Costs Per Year

Light, heat, etc.	\$	400.00
Telephone		120.00
Advertising		200.00
Rent or amortization of office equipment,		
time clocks, etc.		100.00
Total fixed costs	.\$	69,860.00
Fixed costs per year per car space	.\$	232.87
Fixed costs per day per car space, based on		
306 business days per year	.\$	.76
Handling costs per car parked	1	
based on ability to secure workers		
on shifts to meet morning and eve-		
ning rush demands:		
Attendants' wages, parking and returning car to		
customer, average 7 minutes		.10
Salary of management, based on operation of		.10
several parking places		.008
Wages of office force per car parked		.008
Social security taxes, printing, supplies		.007
	-	.001
Total handling cost per car parked, based	0	100
on parking at least 300 cars per day	φ	.123

# **Total Costs Per Car Parked Based on Foregoing Figures**

NUMBER OF CARS PARKED DAILY	FIXED COSTS PER CAR	HANDLING COST PER CAR	TOTAL COST PER CAR PARKED
300	\$.76	\$.123	\$.883
400	.57	.123	.693
500	.456	.123	.579
600	.38	.123	.513
700	.326	.123	.449
800	.285	.123	.408
900	.253	.123	.376
*1500	.152	.123	.275

All of the above handling cost figures are based on daytime operations only, when maximum use of personnel can be obtained and when turnover is greatest. If sufficient patronage can be secured for night, holiday, and Sunday operation, the higher rates obtained will offset higher labor costs and contribute something toward capital costs as well.

One well-known garage charging 25c for one hour, 35c for two hours, 50c for all day to 6:00 p.m., 50c for anytime up to midnight after 6:00 p.m., and 75c for all-night parking, is able to secure approximately 48c as the average parking fee and a turnover of two cars per space per day, or 96c per space per day. It will be noted that this is close to the rate which would be necessary to meet the costs shown on the above table for 600 cars per day.

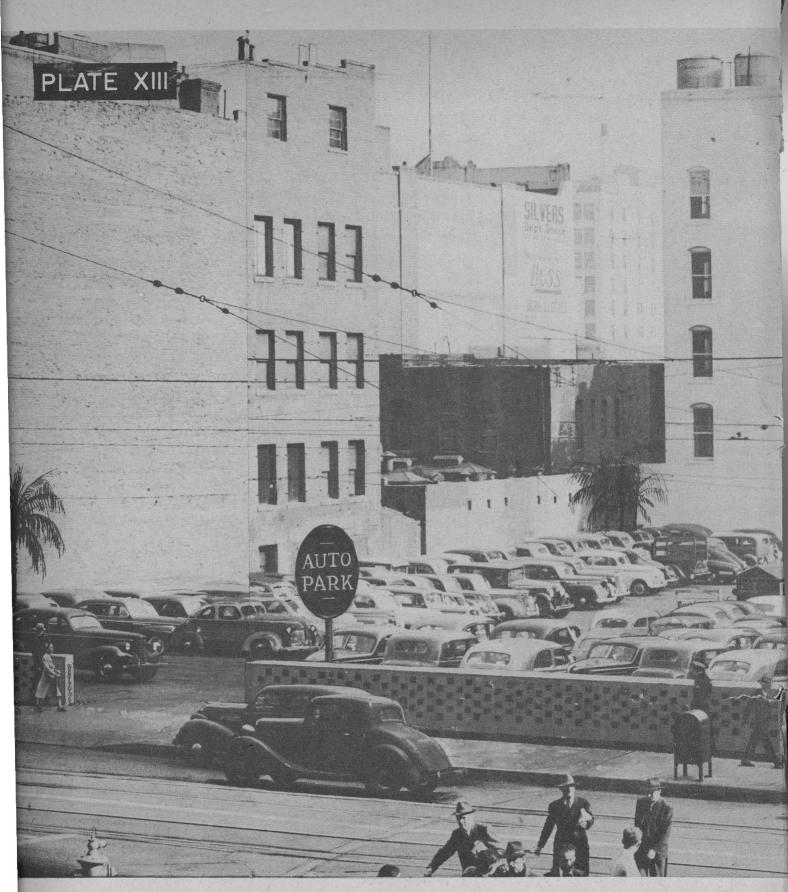
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<sup>\*</sup> This rate of turnover was attained in a few open-air lots in Downtown Los Angeles in October, 1941.



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LOS ANGELES



# SUGGESTED AUTO

CITY PLANNING COMMISSION

#### TABLE 2

Using the basic figures set out in Table 1, total costs per car parked in garages built on less expensive land would be as follows:

NG HANDLING, PER CAR PARKED, ES PER SQUARE FOOT AS SHOWN:
00 \$10.00 \$15.00 \$20.00
6 \$.629 \$.753 \$.883
0 .503 .599 .693
3 .427 .503 .579
4 .386 .440 .513
7 .340 .397 .449
6 .313 .361 .408
1 .289 .334 .376
9 .224 .250 .275
I () ()

#### TABLE 3

Typical costs of open-air parking lots where all cars are handled by attendants:

# Investment 300 car spaces

500 car spaces	
Land 45,000 square feet at \$3.00\$ Improvements at \$25.00 per car space	135,000.00 7,500.00
Total Investment\$	142,500.00
Fixed Carrying Costs, Per Year, Land and Improvements	1
Interest at $6\%$ \$ Taxes at $3\%$ Improvements depreciation $10\%$ Amortization $2\%$ Upkeep and Repairs	4,275.00 750.00
Total Carrying Costs \$	17,425.00
Fixed Operating Costs Per Year	
Light, heat, etc. \$ Telephone Advertising	100.00 120.00 50.00

Rent of office equipment, time clock, etc.

Fixed cost per day based on 306 business days.....

Cost per car space per day.....

# Handling Costs Daytime

Attendants' wages, parking a	no
customer, 5 minutes	
Salary, management	
Office wages per car parked	
Social security taxes, and mis	CE
supplies, etc.	

	Based on A
UMBER OF CARS PARKED DAILY	FIXED COSTS PER CAR
300	\$.193
400	.145
500	.115
600	.096
700	.082
800	.072
900	.064
1500	038

#### TA

The following table has been parked when land is rented for same allowance for improveme handling costs per car parked

		CO
RENT PER SPACE PER MONTH	1 turnover	t
\$8.00	.422	
7.50	.403	
7.00	.383	
6.50	.364	
6.00	.344	
5.50	.325	
5.00	.305	
4.00	.266	

From the foregoing it will costs for land and/or improvement provided a frequent turnover spaces can be maintained or all be secured, with a high percent on a high rate of turnover during rates for theatre or all-night parand building costs prevailing in

50.00

57.99

17,745.00

## LES PARKING STUDY

er Car Parked,	
vice Only	
turning car to	
	0.069
**************************************	0.005
	0.005
neous	
	0.007
_	0.000
\$	0.086

#### r Parked, ve Figures

NDLING COST	TOTAL COST PEI
PER CAR	CAR PARKED
\$.086	\$.279
.086	.231
.086	.201
.086	.182
.086	.168
.086	.158
.086	.150
.086	.124

epared to show the cost of cars pen-air parking lots, with the costs, fixed operating costs and set out in Table 3.

Lie Oi	3	
vers	turnovers	4 turnovers
2	.197	.169
4	.191	.165
5	.187	.160
4 5 5 5	.178	.155
	.172	.150
5 5	.162	.147
5	.159	.140

.146

PER CAR PARKED

seen that comparatively high is can be paid for parking space, the total number of parking gh all-day or all-night rate can e of occupancy at night. Based the daytime and relatively high ing, it is possible to pay ground xpensive downtown locations.

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Under present building code requirements, it does not seem possible to build garages for much, if any, less than \$2.00 per square foot, using 1941 costs for material and labor as a basis. Garage handling costs will also be higher than shown in our tables unless a cheaper means can be found for carrying attendants up and down in the building than is now permitted. It should be possible to have changes made in the building code which will permit less expensive buildings and elevators to be used, and an investigation will be made along this line.

In our estimates of spaces needed and the proper locations for parking facilities, we have assumed that most of the spaces would be made available in open-air lots. Such a plan has the advantage of providing sufficient space for immediate post-war needs, with the possibility of building inexpensive garages on the same property to meet expected expansion of automobile use.

#### PRESENT PARKING RATES

Regular parking rates in the Downtown Area (except during December and Easter Week) as ordered by the O.P.A., effective November 20, 1944, provide a maximum for all-day parking (to 6:00 p.m.) in open-air parking lots in the district of not to exceed 25c, with the following exceptions:

845 South Broadway	50c	
416 West Fourth	. 35c	
Grand Ave. between 5th and 8th		
409 South Hill	50c	
Remainder of Hill, 4th to 8th	\$1.00	
Hill Street, 8th to 9th	. 50c	
Main Street, 6th to 7th	. 35c	
Olive Street, 4th to 5th	. 35c	
625 South Olive		
Remainder Olive, 6th to 7th	. 75c	
Olive, 7th to 813 South Olive	. 50c	
353 South Spring	. 35c	
Spring, 5th to 8th	. 50c	
815 South Spring	. 35c	
825 South Spring	. 50c	

None of the lots, including the above higher priced lots, were allowed hourly rates to exceed 15c, except those having a maximum rate of \$1.00. These have a rate of 20c for the first hour.

It is obvious that the 43 parking lots above listed are so located that under present conditions there is strong pressure to use them for all-day parking by the group 1 type of parker, excepting those lots with maximums of 75c and \$1.00.

(Continued on Page Twenty-two)

Some of these lots accept validated tickets from various stores one- or two-hour periods, but most of their space other than used for all-day parking appears to be used largely by mems of group 3.

Under present O.P.A. regulations, it is probable that rates will be subject to frequent change, as they have been in the past, ch will encourage the public to make more use of downtown king facilities.

The above-mentioned rates tend to favor the all-day parker I thus remove the most desirable parking spaces in the district m possible use by the short-time parkers—groups 3, 4, and 5. It is our intention to try by two means to remedy the situation. e, to get the O.P.A. to permit higher all-day rates on the lots to located for short-time parking; and, two, to get the operators these lots to keep them closed until 9:30 a.m., after which there few drivers coming in who wish to stay all day. This is a curt problem which will not affect post-war conditions materially, t it is important in its effect upon business during the war riod.

# Section Four POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

#### PERMANENT SOLUTION

No complete and permanent solution of the parking problem ader post-war conditions can be offered except one which will volve the setting aside exclusively and permanently for parking, afficient land properly located which will provide outdoor or door parking of approximately 45,000 car spaces within the owntown Los Angeles Area, and which can be operated for sees which those who validate tickets as well as those who pay ash can and will pay.

Such a program would involve the acquisition by some public quasi-public agency, or by a private corporation, of approxiately 6,750,000 square feet of properly located ground, or some ser amount, if means can be found to provide parking spaces in addings at the same or less cost per net parking space. If such paces are not set aside, the choice parking areas will gradually absorbed for other purposes, thus increasing the demand for arking space and making it increasingly hard to secure sufficient arking property well located, at reasonable prices.

The above amounts of land to be acquired can be reduced a considerable extent so far as the responsibility of Downtown usiness Men is involved, if it is assumed that private interests and the governmental agencies involved will for the Civic Center District. As noted in report, it should be possible to construct a ground parking space in the Civic Center there will probably be a comparatively la sive land in the Civic Center Parking Dis-I, to meet all requirements for a consider

An additional reduction can be made found who will build suitable garages is or adjoining it, which can be operated a rates, to serve the various groups of park Possible construction of a large garage for example, would permanently meet a ment for centrally located parking space rates. Construction of other and less exout would serve other parking customer buildings provides reasonable assurance

If it is assumed that the problems is parking of about 7,000 spaces can be set and that garages now in operation or to be ness District will provide 6,000 parking sthen be to provide approximately 32,000 4,800,000 square feet) in open-air lots with District on a permanent basis.

Three legislative acts, California Ass 971; 1207, chapter 246; and 2206, chapte which provide for the formation of par acquire and operate parking facilities. In plan of such acts. Under any of them a crty for parking purposes acquired by a tion and the property within the distribenefits estimated to accrue from the a of the facility.

None of these acts seems to fit the down but it may be possible to amend one or modelegislative session to make them more utioned above was written by James L. Be ber of our Transportation Department. I action taken to the Supreme Court. The be helpful in developing further measuremeeting the downtown parking situations.

While further studies are being mad solutions of the general problem, there is independently and in cooperation with p ing facilities to meet immediate needs. tion are contained in our recommendati

Page Twenty-tv

# ES PARKING STUDY

I provide ample parking n preceding pages of this a large amount of underer Building District, and arge amount of inexpenstrict, shown on PLATE trable period.

if private parties can be in the Business District, at low, medium, and high kers previously described. under Pershing Square, large part of the requirement comparatively high spensive garages farther s. Investment in garage of permanency.

nvolved in Civic Center aside for a time, at least, be built to serve the Busipaces, the problem would 0 parking spaces (about hin the Business Parking

sembly bills 1035, chapter er 1098, have been passed rking districts which can all three follow the usual district is formed, propondemnation or negotiat assessed according to equisition and operation

wntown situation exactly, ore of them at the coming seful. The first act menebe, attorney and a memth has been tested through decision in this case will res of particular value in ion.

de of possible permanent is much that can be done resent operators of park-Suggestions for such acons.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

For immediate action, your committee recommends the formation of a corporation, to be controlled by the Executive Committee of the Association, which will have authority to rent, lease or otherwise acquire parking lots or garages and to operate them for the benefit of the District, with emphasis on serving short-time parking needs. We recommend that the corporation when formed proceed to acquire as rapidly as possible approximately 3,000 parking spaces located where they will serve all parts of the Downtown Business District. We recommend that these facilities be improved as soon as the war permits in a way which will make them a credit to the Association (see PLATES XII and XIII).

Such improvements in physical appearance and in service will, we believe, enable us to point the way toward a general cooperative effort on the part of present operators to improve the whole parking situation throughout the Downtown Area.

Present operators, for the most part, carry on their business under very difficult conditions which do not tend toward the best in service to the public, upon whom they depend for their financial success. We believe the acquisition and operation of the comparatively few parking facilities suggested will act as a stabilizing influence, the results of which will encourage present operators to join with our Association in providing, immediately after the war, if not before, general improvements in parking service which will help to bring an increasing number of customers to the Downtown Business District.

Zoning regulations now under consideration by the City Planning Commission provide regulations for the location, improvement and use of parking lots which will probably be helpful in promoting improved service.

Tentative articles of incorporation drawn for the Association by Mr. James L. Beebe contemplate an organization with no capital stock. Necessary funds are to be borrowed from businesses and property owners of the District.

A thorough investigation of the possibility of acquiring certain properties has been made for us by a competent realty broker, who reports that it will be possible to acquire the recommended number of spaces at rentals approximately the same as those being paid by present operators. No investigation has been made of properties not now used for parking purposes, but this will be done when actual negotiations are in order.

The corporation, when formed and capitalized, would, of course, examine in detail the history of each lot before acquisition and would acquire only those whose record of operation prior to

the war, as well as their present business, indicate they can be operated by the corporation to meet expenses now and under post-war conditions.

We have ascertained that suitable lots can be acquired on payment of the first and last month's rent. We recommend that capital for acquisition and operating purposes be sufficient to provide for such payments, and the equivalent of an additional month's rent for working capital.

Our own investigations and the experience of the Oakland Downtown Association, which operates under a similar plan, indicate that approximately \$25.00 per car space should be provided for improvements to the properties acquired. Such improvements to consist of surfacing, planting, painting adjacent walls, construction of ornamental front walls or fences with gates (which will be required if we are to eliminate all-day parking), suitable office buildings, and time clocks. It has been found that parking lots may be rented at rates varying from \$3.30 to \$12.00 per car space per month.

From the broker's investigation mentioned, it appears that 3,000 desirable spaces can be secured at an average rental of \$8.34 per space per month. The capital requirement to provide the equivalent of three months' rental on this basis would be \$25.00 per car space. The total improvement, rental and operating capital amounts to an average of \$50.00 per car space, or \$150,000 for 3,000 spaces as suggested.

Part of the improvements contemplated cannot be made during war times and it will not be possible to acquire all of the areas at one time. We therefore recommend that pledges for loans amounting to \$150,000 be secured, such pledges to be payable on demand as required by the corporation.

Through the formation and operation of the corporation suggested we believe that a long step toward a permanent solution of the parking problem will have been made. It is assumed that the extent of the corporation's operations will be expanded only as experience justifies it. The experience gained will be helpful in determining the future actions of the Association and the community in the further steps which must be taken to solve the parking problem on a permanent basis.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ACTION

We recommend that the committee be authorized to continue its studies looking toward a permanent solution of the parking problem in Downtown Los Angeles. Our investigations, the results of which are set out in this report, show that no material expansion in business in the Downtown District can be expected. from automobile users uness me are provided and properly operat

Whether this can be dore throporation we have suggested in ordiate action, or by other private and operating experience. To medlem cannot be solved through protection that the legal advisory committee ment be requested to join us in a to parking operations and in the proparation advisable.

If possible, such legislative p should be presented to the legisl on January 2, 1945.

We recommend that the City sions be requested to join us in permanent solution of the problem that the City Attorney be reques staff to advise and assist our legal

#### PLATE XII—PAG

This parking lot located in the typical of the better kept parking geles. Reference to the sketch leads to

#### PLATE XIII—PA

This sketch prepared by the Los Angeles shows the parking after reasonable changes in appear gates and planting.

# LES PARKING STUDY

e adequate parking facilities

gh present operators, the correcommendations for immeneans, requires further study the possibility that the probvate business, we recommend of the Transportation Departtudy of existing laws relating eparation of such amendments of such new laws as may seem

oposals as may be developed ture which began its sessions

nd County Planning Commisour studies looking toward a s presented in this report, and ed to assign a member of his committee.

#### E EIGHTEEN

Business Parking District is places in Downtown Los An-LATE XIII, on page twenty, rovement which can be made tively small expense.

#### GE TWENTY

City Planning Commission of ot illustrated by PLATE XII rance have been made by walls,

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The committee desires to express its sincere appreciation to the following, who, by making available to us reports, legal information, building estimates, operating experience and helpful suggestions, enabled us to compile the report without incurring the expense in time and money which would have been necessary had we secured all our information through our own surveys and initial research.

The following departments of the City of Los Angeles.

The City Planning Commission, director and staff.

The City Engineer and staff.

The Street Traffic Engineer.

The Bureau of Building and Safety.

The Regional Planning Commission of Los Angeles, its chief engineer and staff.

The California State Highway Commission, its chief engineer and staff, and particularly the chief engineer and staff of the Los Angeles office.

The Automobile Club of Southern California, Engineering Department.

The Downtown Merchants' Parking Association of Oakland.

The operator and management of Union Square Garage in San Francisco.

James L. Beebe, attorney.

Dwight Gibbs, architect.

Coldwell Banker and Company, Realtors, Mr. Riley and Mr. Brun.

William Simpson Construction Company.

General Petroleum Corporation, Mr. Felix Chappellet.

W. Ross Campbell Co., Realtors, Robert L. McCourt, Jr.