Revised 03-02-2021

Parking Initiatives

St. Michaels Parking Committee

PURPOSE

Recommend strategies to the Town Commissioners that improve utilization of existing parking capacity and reduce emergency response time.

OBJECTIVES

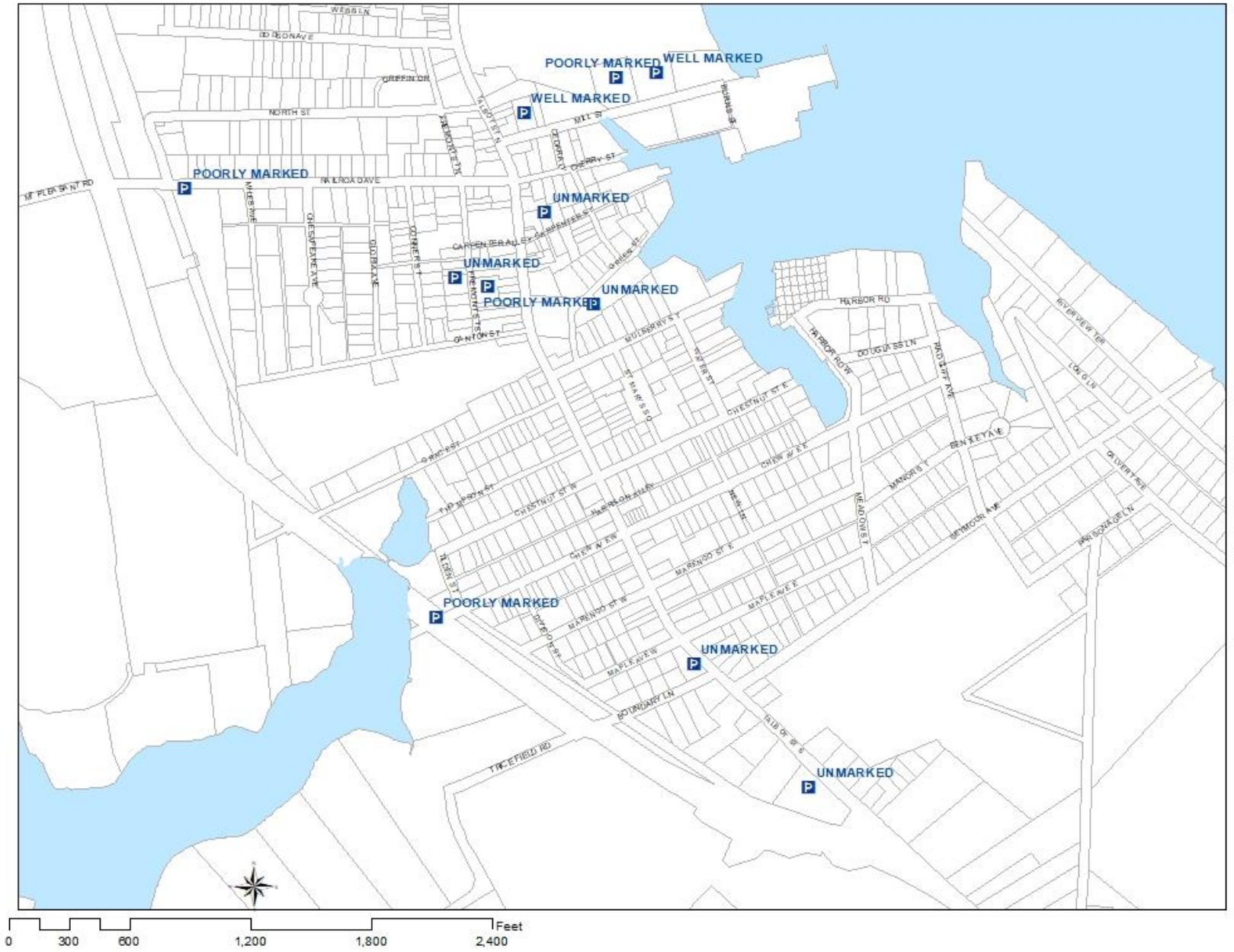
- **Increased public parking capacity**
- **Efficient use of existing parking**
- **Reduced conflicts between resident and visitor parking**
- **Improved emergency access to residences and businesses**

ISSUES

- **Visitor/residents parking conflicts**
- **Signage - adequacy, form and locations**
- **Emergency vehicle access conflicts**

STRATEGIES

- **Identify opportunities to add public parking**
- **Improve directional signage (on the ground and online)**
- **Work with businesses to better manage employee parking**
- **Identify and address parking situations that affect emergency vehicle response time**
- **Improve marking of no-parking zones, increase policing**



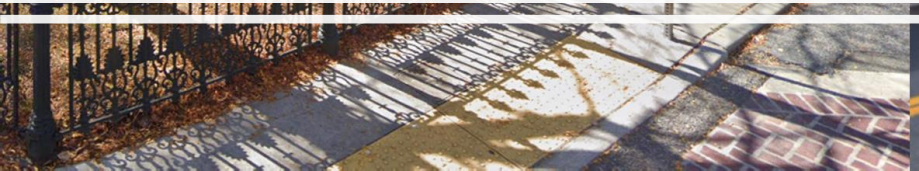
Signage Assessment

- Some Town parking lots are unmarked.
- Variety of signs makes navigation to existing lots difficult
- Signs are lacking local St. Michaels' historic character

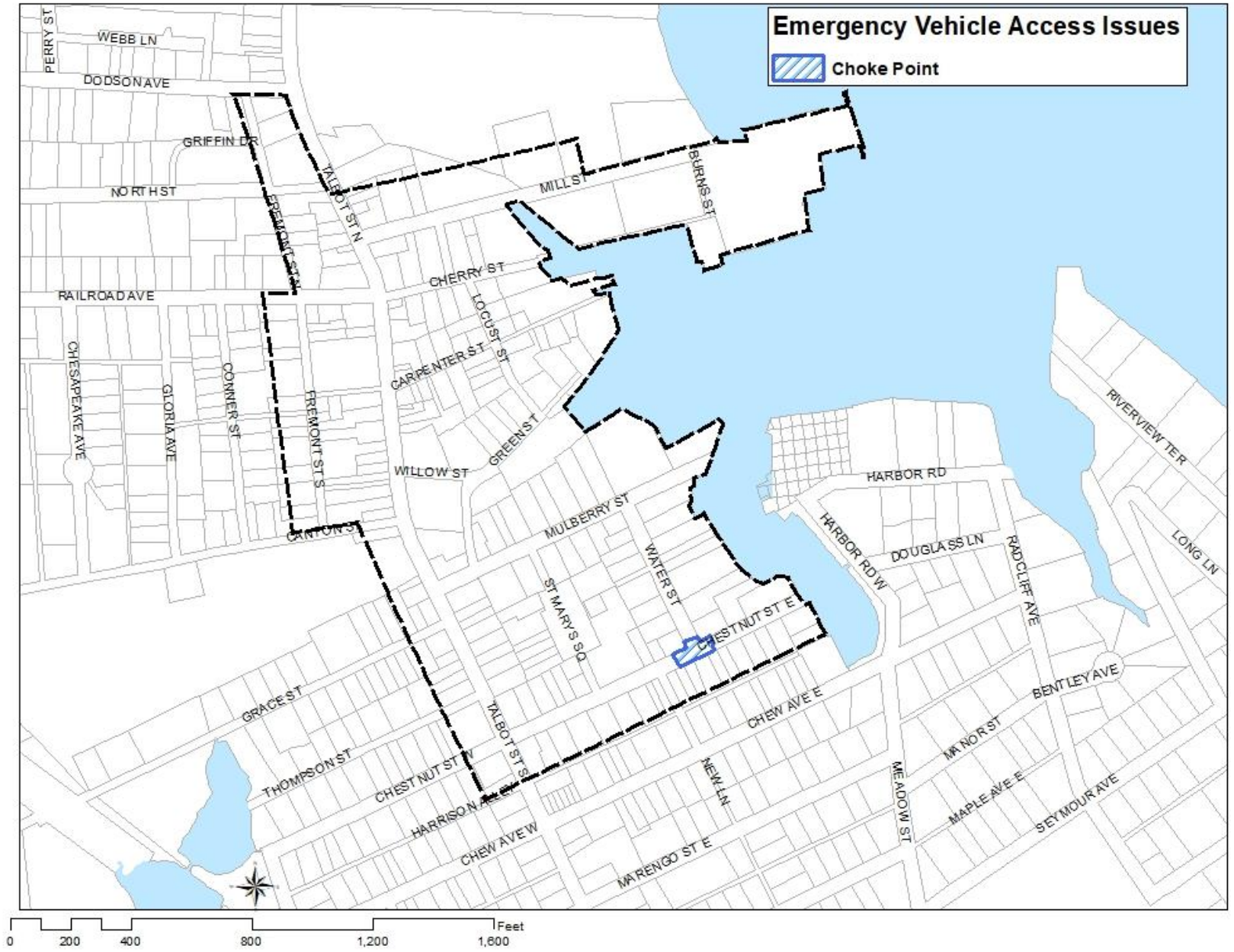
Search this area
Tide Mill Cove
Miles River
Yacht Club Rd
Rolles Range Rd
33
Perry Cabin Dr
Perry Cabin Park
Chester Pike
Mitchell St
Trusty St
N Talbot St
Watkins Ln
Webb Ln
Dodson Ave
North St
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Parking Lot
Fremont St
Cherry St
Bradley Park
Mt Pleasant Rd
Dawson Rd
St. Michaels Public Parking Lot
Church Neck Rd
Water St
W Harbor Rd
Harrison Alley
Lennep Ln
Thompson St
Tilden St
S Talbot St
Radcliff Ave
Seymour Ave
Parsonage Ln
Calvert Ave
Riverview Terrace
Mt Misery Rd
St. Michaels Parking Lot
Parking - St. Michaels Nature Trail
Boundary
Google
PARKING LOT SIGNAGE
ISSUES NOTED:
1. SOME TOWN PARKING LOTS ARE UNMARKED. ESPECIALLY THE TWO LOTS THE PARKING COMMITTEE IS SUGGESTING TO REFURBISH/EXPAND
UNMARKED
POORLY MARKED
WELL MARKED

Variety of signs makes navigation to existing lots difficult

Example from other jurisdictions



Existing street signs ignore parking wayfinding



Public Safety

- Parking on streets in the Historic District is causing a dangerous environment for drivers and emergency apparatus

Our Emergency Responders support this plan:

“There has always been a struggle with congested streets and overflow parking in St. Michaels, especially in the summer months. I can’t stress enough the importance of having clear streets/roads in regard to public safety. Seconds matter when it comes to saving lives. I believe a great starting point for fixing this issue is the parking concerns on Water St. This will directly affect the safety of our residents and visitors.”
-Ryan Stacey, SMFD EMS Paramedic/Firefighter and EMS Captain

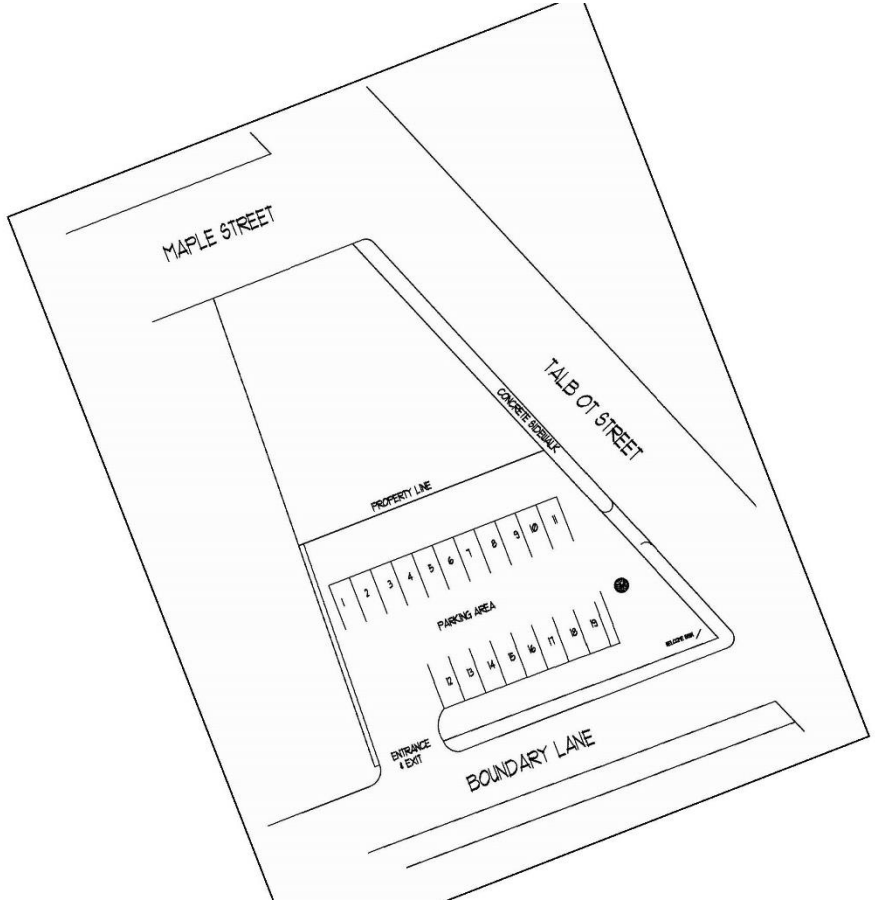
“It’s sometimes impossible to drive down Water St. with cars parked in the road on both sides.”
-Kevin Smith, SMFD Engineer/Driver

“St. Michaels Fire Dept has concerns with parking on some of the side streets in the town limits. For example, fire apparatus and the County EMS units have noticed parking on both sides of Water St. makes it difficult and sometimes impossible to get our apparatus through. In an emergency, this poses a direct safety concern for residents and visitors by not being able to access this area. Please see if this can resolved. Please contact myself if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks.”
-Phil Jones, Chief, SMFD

Strategies

Efficient Use of Existing Parking

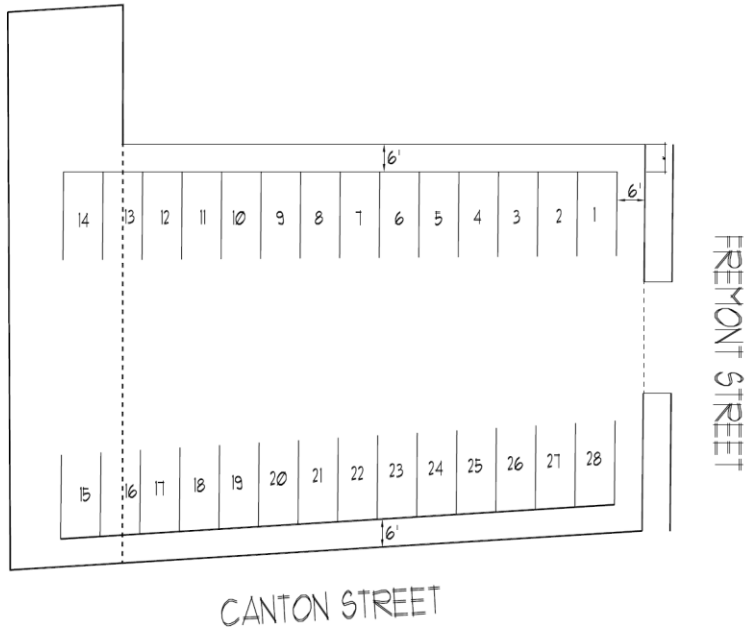
St. Talbot Street & Boundary Lane



Add Public Parking

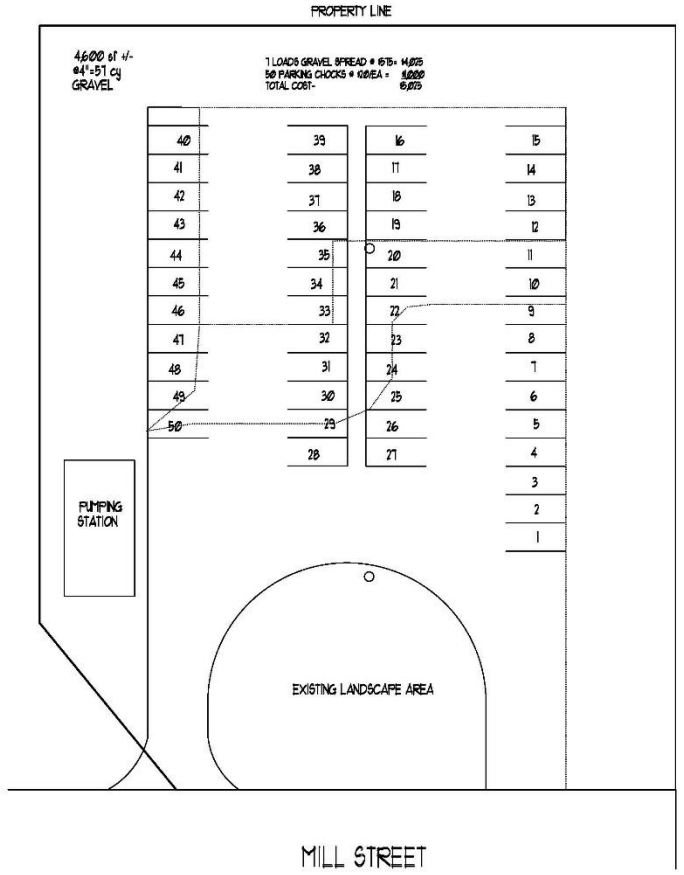
Freemont Street

Freemont St. Suggestion, 28 spots



Add Public Parking

Mill Street



Add Public Parking

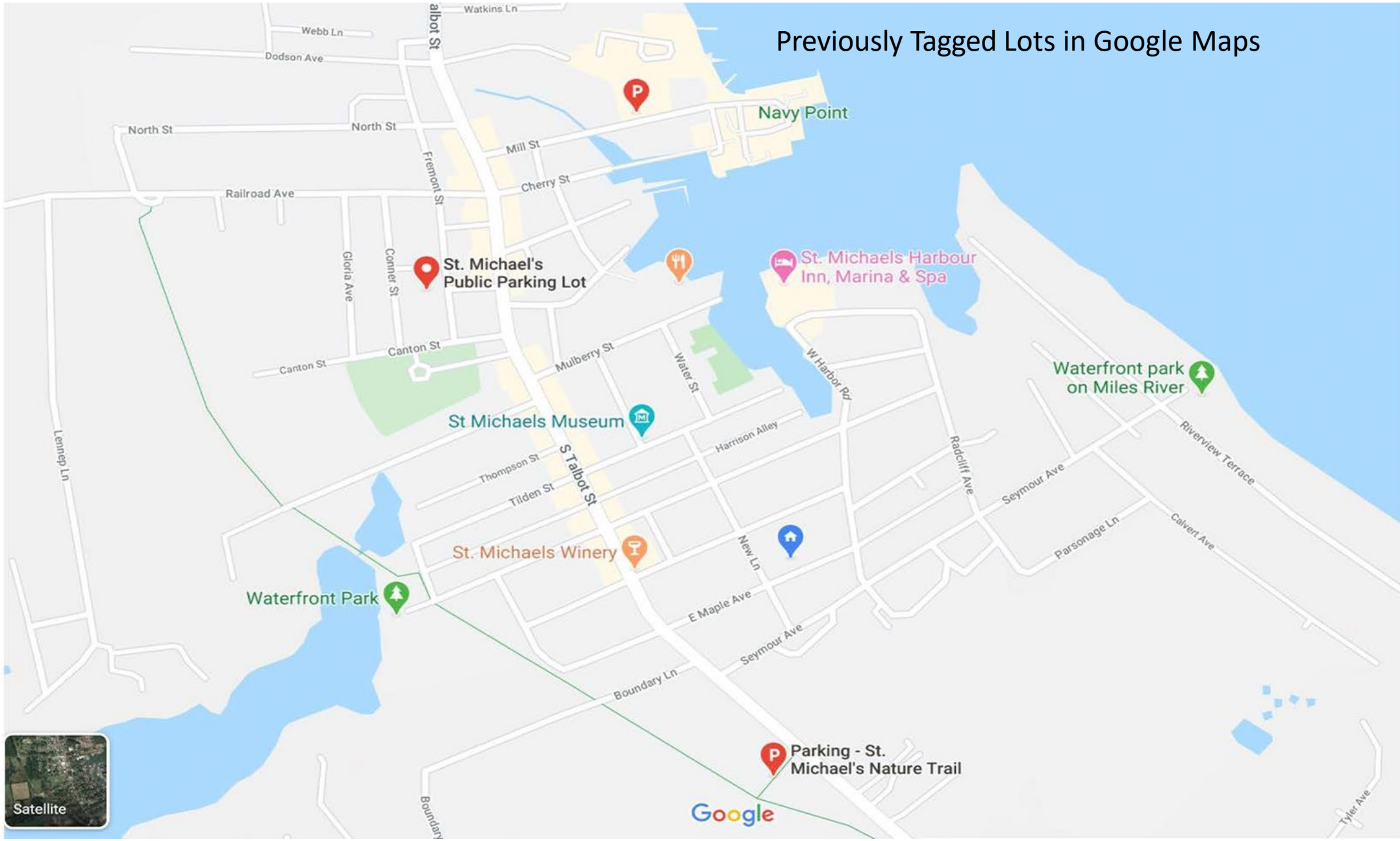
Mulberry Street

Add eight parking spaces

IMPROVE SIGNAGE

- **Tag all lots in Google Maps, Waze, and Apple Maps**
- **Uniform signage - the same color, shape, and size**
- **Include walking maps in each lot to direct people into town**

Previously Tagged Lots in Google Maps



Currently Tagged Lots in Google Maps
-1 private lot (CBMM)
-2 town lots
SemaConnect Charging Station
Lee St
Chester Park Ln
Mitchell St
Trusty St
Brooks Ln
Perry St
Webb Ln
Watkins Ln
N Talbot St
Dodson Ave
208 Talbot
St. Michaels Parking Lot
Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum Parking Lot
Hollis Park
Kitchen Restoration Experts
North St
Railroad Ave
Bradley Park
Lennep Ln
St. Michaels Public Parking Lot
Muskrat Park
St. Michaels Parking Lot
Tesla Destination Charger
Water St
Grace St
St Michaels Museum
Great Shoals Cellars
Harrison Alley
E Chew Ave
New Ln
Meadow St
Manor St
Roadcliff Ave
Seymour Ave
Eastside Ave
Calvert Ave
Riverview Terrace
Parsonage Ln
St. Michaels Nature Trail Covered Bridge
Tesla Destination Charger
Chew Street Park
Waterfront Park
W Marengo St
W Maple Ave
St Michaels Middle High
YMCA
St. Michaels Parking Lot
Environmental Concern Inc
HIDDEN HARBOR SALON
Parking - St. Michaels Nature Trail
Boundary
Parrott Point
St. Michaels Harbour Inn, Marina & Spa
Sail Selina II
Point Breeze Bed & Breakfast
Long Lane Lodge
Roof Milk
Waterfront park on Miles River
W Harbor Rd
Eastern Shore Philatelics
Tyler Ave
Google

Develop uniform parking signage and implement at key locations

Address safety hazards caused by congested parking

- **First priority - address parking and emergency vehicle access conflicts on Water St.**

- **Commission parking study of the historic district to identify solutions to overcome safety obstacles and residential parking needs.**

Water Street

Problem:

- Parking on Water St. can create an impassable road for emergency access

Solution:

- Eliminate parking **On the Paved Portion** on the Even side of Water St.
- Establish “hydrant zones” to protect fire hydrant access
- Enforce with signage, road painting, tickets, and towing
- Allow (or pay for) residents to create gravel access in the approximately five spots removed by an Even side Pavement parking restriction.

Reasoning to eliminate Even side parking:

- Many even-side Water St. residents already have parking on their property by way of full-size gravel spots that allow them to park entirely OFF of the pavement. This should be continued and expanded.
- The 5 locations on the Even side that would be lost could be replaced by making gravel areas adjacent to the pavement, resulting in a net-zero parking inventory loss for residents and protecting those spots for residential use.

Reasoning to keep Odd side parking:

- Odd side Water St. residential gravel spots tend to be smaller in size, forcing cars into the pavement.
- Some Odd side residents have placed stones to protect their grass, forcing cars to park entirely on the pavement. Let’s continue to allow this, as we don’t want to remove.
- parking inventory for the nearby businesses.

Water Street Objectives

Examples of established parking areas, and even side parking showing the car is off the street.

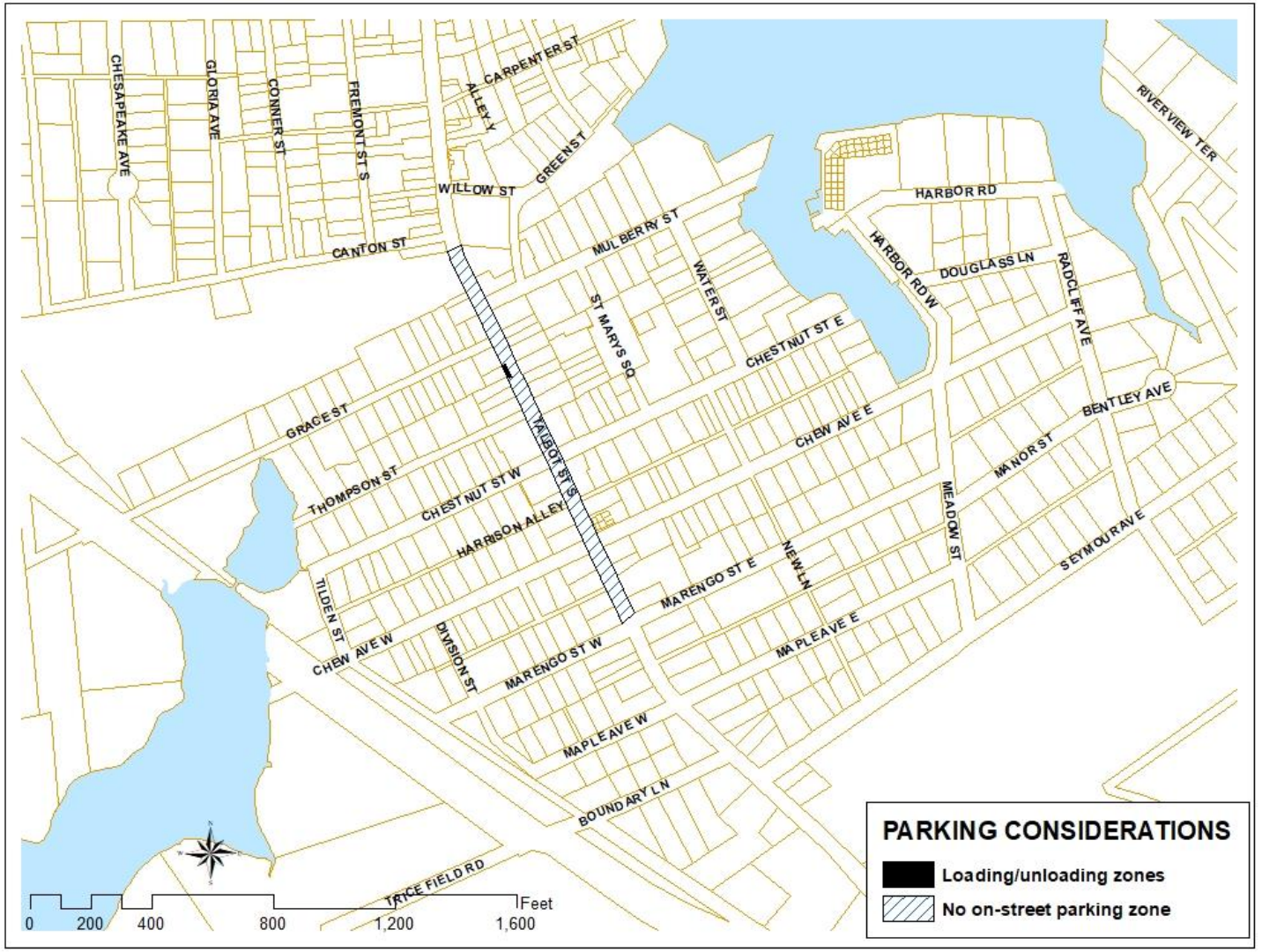
Establish clear no parking zones at key intersection

Establish clear no parking zones at key intersection

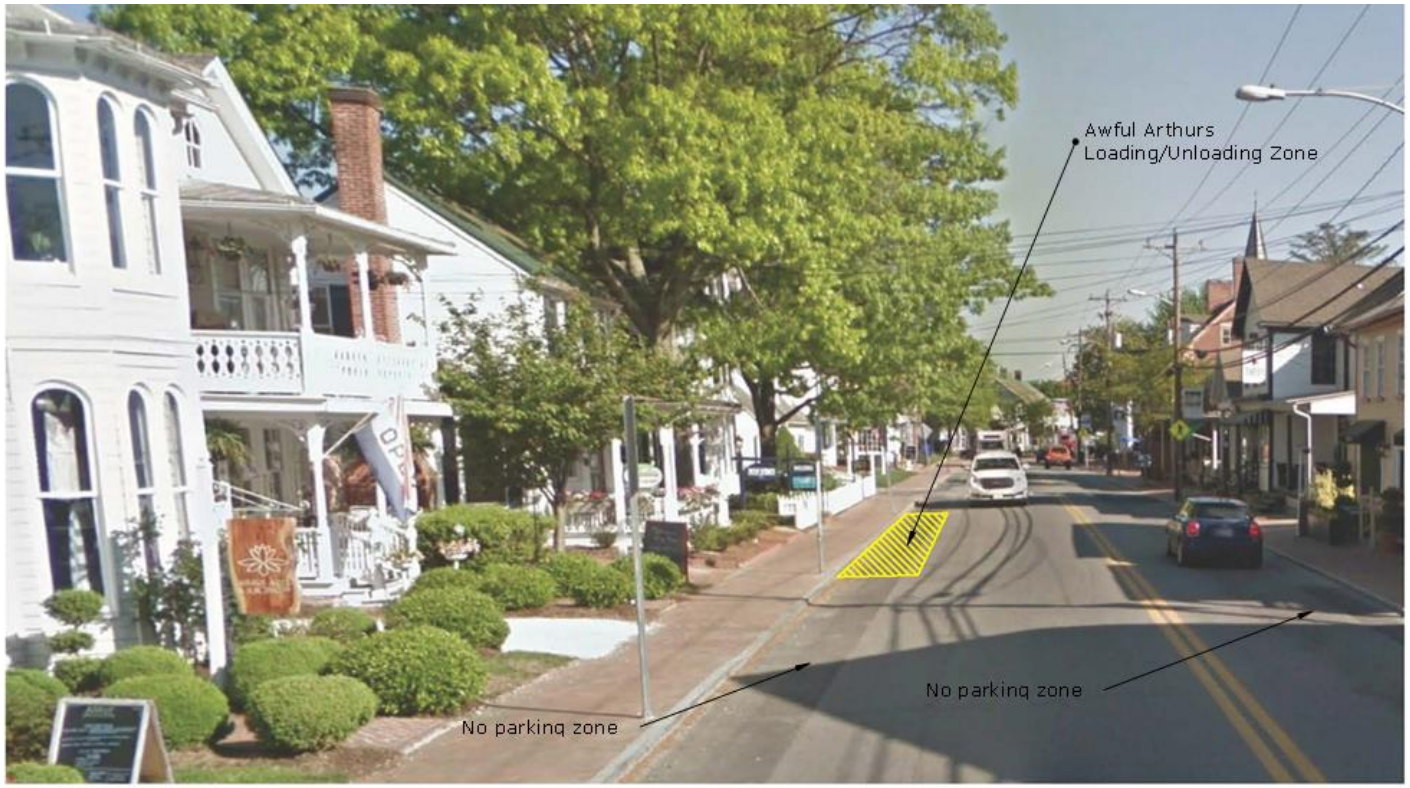
Other Considerations

- **Convert some of the parking spaces on Talbot Street to loading and unloading spaces**
- **Eliminate on-street parking south of Canton Alley**

Eliminate parking south of Canton Alley



Convert some Talbot Street parking spots to loading/unloading zones



Parking enforcement

- Strict enforcement of parking regulations
- Hire a parking enforcement officer

Next Steps:

Gather public input

Finalize recommendations

Tell us about your parking issues/concerns

- At public meetings
- Written descriptions mailed or emailed to Parking Committee. Include where you live (Street address), where you park (on-street, off-street), and your parking issues or concerns.
- Email - kkudla@stmichaelsmd.gov
- Mail Address:

  Town of St. Michaels

  300 Mill Street, P.O. Box 206

  St. Michaels, MD 21663