



Downtown Parking Inventory

January 2023

BENCHMARK



Overview

The Town of Elon, working with a consultant, developed and approved a Downtown Master Plan in January of 2014. In January of 2016, the Town commissioned a Comprehensive Parking Study, which provided an assessment of parking facilities and demands in downtown. Years later, the several of the action steps have been completed from those studies and the environment of downtown Elon has changed. As the Downtown Master Plan is being updated in 2023, a standalone inventory of parking was completed. Though not as extensive as the Comprehensive Parking Study, this inventory provides an update on available parking in downtown Elon. The Study Area, identified in the map below, includes the eight block area which was determined by the Town as downtown in previous studies. This boundary is consistent with the boundary utilized in the 2016 Comprehensive Parking Study. Sub-boundaries, in the form of blocks, as illustrated on the following page, were also identified to be consistent with the previous parking study.

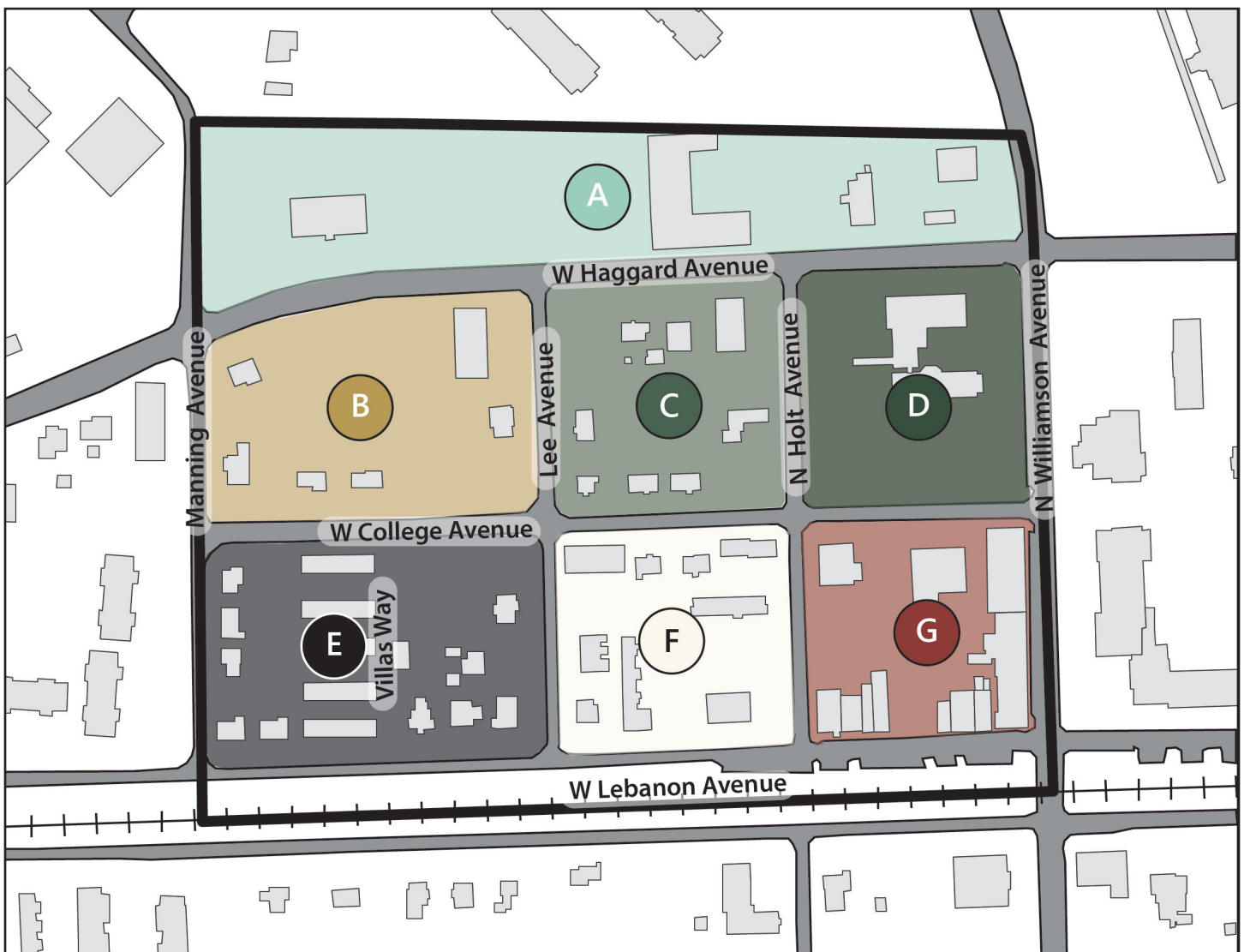
▼ MAP 1 DOWNTOWN PARKING INVENTORY STUDY AREA



Study Area

In order to be consistent with the previous parking study, this inventory is divided into seven blocks, as illustrated below. While private, unpaved and unmarked parking spaces were counted in the graphic below, they are not calculated in the parking inventory - just as was presented in 2016. The following pages provide additional information on parking and how it has changed in downtown Elon over the past six years. Of particular note is the transition of on-street parking spaces to outdoor dining areas. These spaces will be illustrated in the parking inventory but not counted toward the overall number of spaces in downtown Elon.

▼ MAP 2 DOWNTOWN PARKING INVENTORY STUDY AREA - SUB BLOCKS



Parking Inventory

In total, there are 581 parking spaces in downtown Elon today. There are also 13 previous parking spaces which are currently used for outdoor dining, and about 146 private unpaved or unmarked spaces, which are not counted towards this total. Almost one-third of the private parking spaces are publicly available at least part of the time (111 of these are within the Elon Community Church Parking Lot, which is available to the public Monday through Friday from 5 pm to 7 am).

▼ TABLE 1 PARKING SUPPLY BY TYPE

TYPES OF SPACES	NUMBER OF SPACES
PUBLIC PARKING SUPPLY	
On-Street Spaces (1 - 2 hour limit for most spaces; includes barrier free/HC spaces)	131
Off-Street Spaces	0
PRIVATE PARKING SUPPLY	
Private Spaces (Commercial)	450
TOTAL PARKING SUPPLY	581

The geographic distribution of downtown parking is visible in the map on the following page. The vast majority of on-street parking is located along N. Williamson Avenue and W. Lebanon Avenue. Though the Elon Community Church Parking Lot, on the northeastern boundary, is private, it is open to the public during certain times of day, as noted above. All parking on the most northern blocks of the downtown area are in private lots, and the majority of parking on the western portion of downtown is at private homes, largely in the form of unpaved or unmarked surface parking. Details on downtown parking by block are presented on the following pages.

Block Letters

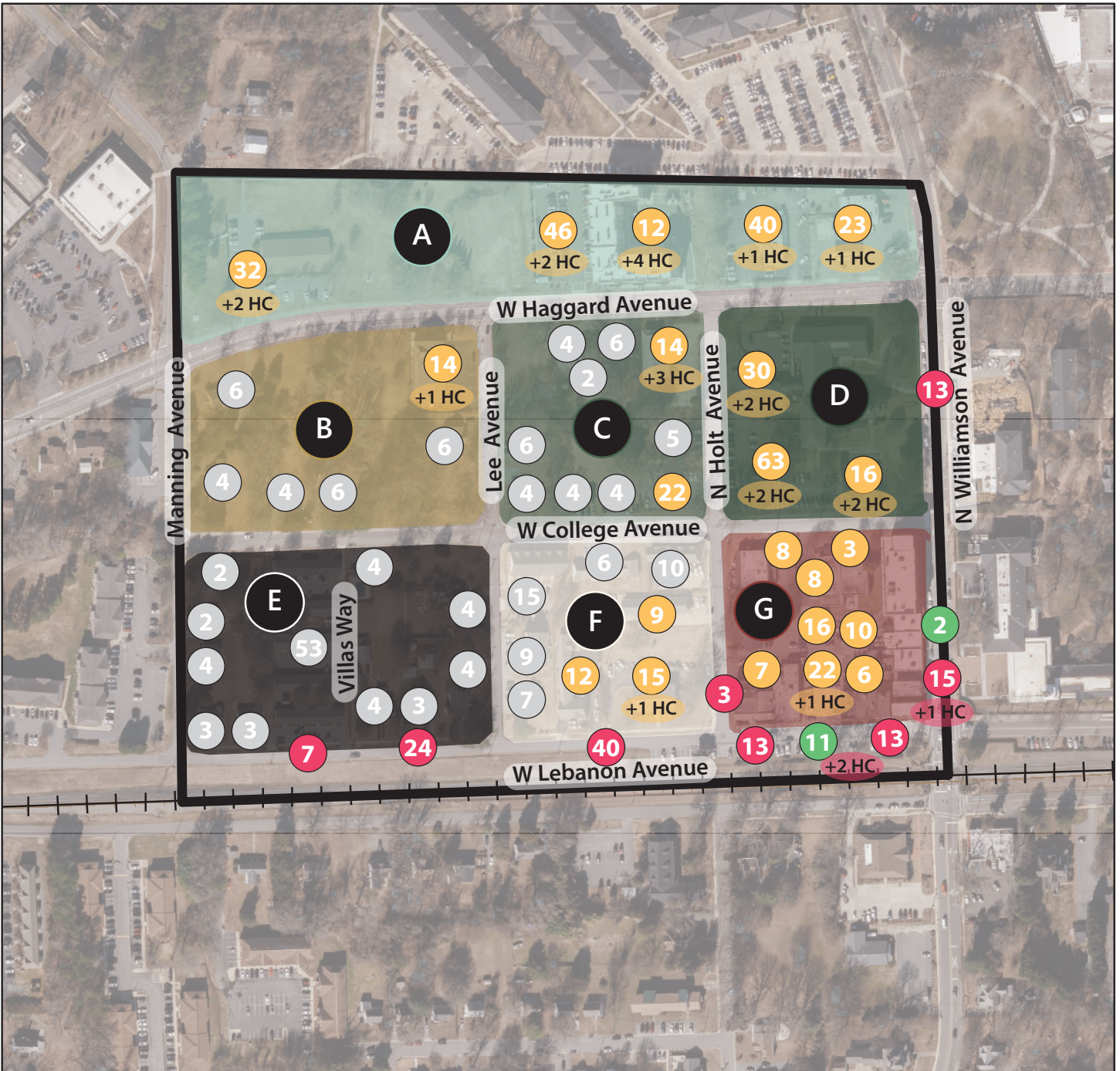
Block A

There are 153 private, paved and marked parking spaces that are accessed off of W. Haggard Avenue, on Block A. There are an additional ten handicapped accessubke spaces in these lots. Two of these lots are related to commercial uses, two are related to a mixed-use building, and one is related to an Elon University property.

Block B

There are 14 private, paved and marked spaces, as well as one handicapped accessible space on Block B. These are all associated with the Acorn Inn. There are also about 26 private, residential parking spaces associated with homes on this block, though they are not counted toward the parking inventory.

▼ MAP 3 PARKING IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA



PARKING TYPES

- ON-STREET SPACES
- ON-STREET SPACES USED FOR DINING
- PRIVATE SPACES (COMMERCIAL AND CIVIC)
- PRIVATE SPACES (RESIDENTIAL)

DOWNTOWN PARKING INVENTORY BOUNDARY

Block C

There are 36 private, paved and marked spaces, as well as three handicapped spaces on Block C. As there are a number of residential homes on Block C, there are also about 35 private, residential spaces, but these are not counted towards the parking inventory.

Block D

Elon Community Church has two private, paved and marked parking lots on Block D. These lots include an additional six handicapped accessible spaces. Both lots are open to the public during off-hours (evenings on Monday through Friday), but towing is enforced during other times of day. There are also 13 public, on-street parking spaces which are associated with Block D, along N. Williamson Avenue.

Block E

There are 31 public, on-street parking spaces associated with Block E, all located along W. Lebanon Avenue. The 31 public spaces are located within the NC Railroad Company (NCRR) right-of-way as negotiated between the Town and NCRR. There are also about 86 private spaces associated with residential units on this block but they were not included in the inventory for the 2016 Parking Study and are not included in this update.

Block F

There are 36 private, paved and marked spaces in lots on Block F. One of these lots provides a barrier free/handicapped space. These lots serve two commercial uses and one Elon University educational building. There are also 40 public, on-street parking spaces associated with Block F, along W. Lebanon Avenue. There are 16 private, residential spaces which are not included in this inventory. As with Block E, the 40 spaces along the railroad side of W. Lebanon Avenue are negotiated public-use spaces with the NCRR.

Block G

There are 80 private, commercial spaces in lots on Block G. One of these lots provides a barrier free/handicapped space as well. There are 44 public, on-street spaces associated with Block G. They are accessed along N. Williamson Avenue, W. Lebanon Avenue, and N. Holt Avenue. There are also 3 public barrier free/handicapped spaces on the street. Additionally, there are 13 spaces which were previously used for parking, but have since been blocked off for outdoor seating and dining opportunities; 11 spaces on W. Lebanon, and 2 spaces on N. Williamson. The spaces designated for outdoor seating are not counted toward the parking inventory.

▼ TABLE 2 PARKING SUPPLY BY BLOCK

BLOCK LETTER	TYPES OF SPACES	SUBTOTALS OF SPACES	TOTAL SPACES
Block A	Private Spaces (Commercial)	153	
	Private Spaces (Handicapped / Barrier Free)	10	
TOTAL PARKING SPACES ON BLOCK A			163
Block B	Private Spaces (Commercial)	14	
	Private Spaces (Handicapped / Barrier Free)	1	
TOTAL PARKING SPACES ON BLOCK B			15
Block C	Private Spaces (Commercial)	36	
	Private Spaces (Handicapped / Barrier Free)	3	
TOTAL PARKING SPACES ON BLOCK C			39
Block D	Private Spaces (Commercial)	109	
	Private Spaces (Handicapped / Barrier Free)	6	
	Public, On-Street Spaces	13	
TOTAL PARKING SPACES ON BLOCK D			128
Block E	Public, On-Street Spaces	31	
TOTAL PARKING SPACES ON BLOCK E			31
Block F	Private Spaces (Commercial)	36	
	Private Spaces (Handicapped / Barrier Free)	1	
	Public, On-Street Spaces	40	
TOTAL PARKING SPACES ON BLOCK F			77
Block G	Private Spaces (Commercial)	80	
	Private Spaces (Handicapped / Barrier Free)	1	
	Public, On-Street Spaces	44	
	Public, On-Street Spaces (Handicapped / Barrier Free)	3	
TOTAL PARKING SPACES ON BLOCK G			128
TOTAL PARKING SUPPLY			581

Changes to Parking Inventory

Since the 2016 Comprehensive Parking Study, overall parking in downtown Elon has increased by 28 spaces. A total of 45 new public, on-street spaces were created, with a loss of 17 private spaces. The greatest reduction of spaces occurred on Block G, where some private spaces were removed due to demolition of property and some public spaces were removed to create outdoor seating and dining opportunities. The greatest gain in spaces occurred on Block E, where significant new on-street parking has been created in the NCRR right-of-way. The map below illustrates where shifts in parking have occurred downtown between 2016 and 2022.

▼ MAP 4 DOWNTOWN PARKING SUPPLY CHANGES SINCE 2016

