

O-17-17
Freshfarm Lease Agreement

Supplemental Staff Report

The City has leased the Donner Parking lot to the Freshfarm Farmer's Market for the past eight years. In mid-February 2016, the market's organizers asked if they could meet with staff to discuss possibly relocating the market to a space adjacent to the Market House this year. City and market staff met on February 25 to discuss their relocation request. Staff agreed the move was worth considering, but that some outreach needed to be done, particularly with the downtown business community.

Lisa Thompson, Executive Director of the Annapolis Partnership, gathered the opinion of the downtown business owners and other Partnership members. It was determined that based on this feedback, the market should stay in the Donner parking lot for this season.

While the move was worth considering, the effort to identify options and to gather feedback put the lease on the City Council's agenda a month later than normal. The Market is scheduled to open May 1st.

April 20, 2016