



The Fort Greene Association is devoted to historic preservation, neighborhood and park enhancement, as well as cultural, economic, and housing advancement. To find out more, become a member, or to volunteer, visit our website www.HistoricFortGreene.org

Residential Permit Parking: A Joint Community Pilot Plan

Written by the RPP Coalition

After years of listening to residents of the communities surrounding Downtown Brooklyn, and after researching residential permit parking plans in other cities in the United States, a coalition of Brooklyn neighborhood advocacy organizations, including the Fort Greene Association, is putting forth a **Residential Permit Parking plan**.

Based on the unique situation of our Downtown Brooklyn neighborhood and the statistical information in the report by the Downtown Brooklyn Council Study, paid for by the NYC Department of Transportation.* The study revealed that over 46% of the on-street vehicles were commuters (after subtracting local residents who registered their cars elsewhere), demonstrating that there is a clear need for a residential permit parking program. The coalition's collective goal is not and has never been a guaranteed parking place.

The goal remains to give residents a priority in the competition for available parking, so they can go about leading their lives. Residential permit parking benefits all residents because it discourages the search for free parking, thus reducing congestion and making streets safer for pedestrians and bicyclists. A reduction in commuter parking has the potential to open up spaces for shoppers, visitors, and other short-term parking needs.

Residential Permit Parking (RPP) is one important method for controlling traffic congestion in the Downtown Brooklyn area and with increased development and new efforts to plan for a sustainable New York City, RPP becomes an even more critical piece of the puzzle.

Proposed Program Specifics:

1. The regulation hours would be between 7 AM and 7 PM Monday through Friday, excluding major holidays when government offices and most businesses are closed. (Hours could vary depending upon specific neighborhood conditions). The regulations would apply only to non-metered parking.
2. Permits would be issued on an annual basis to anyone having proof of residency and proof of a car registered to that specific address. The charge for the permit should be nominal for the first car in a household. Any additional vehicles in a household would be subject to a fee equal to the average market rate for garage parking.
3. Permits could be issued by whatever agency the administration chooses, provided it has locations that are

readily accessible to neighborhood residents. Information systems should track registrations and visitor permits for accessing appropriate fees and for fraud prevention. Fines for parking beyond the two-hour limit should be equivalent to current fines. Fine for fraudulent use of the system or use of fraudulent permits should start at \$1,000 and administration of fine collection should follow that used for parking tickets.

4. Visitors would be able to park for a maximum of two hours during the period when residential permit parking regulations are in effect (7 AM - 7 PM). There are also metered spaces available for short-term parking along commercial streets and some other streets in these neighborhoods. Better enforcement of metered parking would discourage on-street warehousing by car and limousine services.

The enforcement of the "No Authorized Permit Parking Zone" would prevent government employees from using meters for all-day parking.

5. Temporary permits for residents' use (e.g. for shared services such as Zipcar) and for overnight visitors could be issued to residents by the same office described in Paragraph #2. Temporary permits would be valid for a three-day period and would display the dates and license plate numbers to prevent fraudulent use.

(Continued on next page)



A House Tour to be Remembered

Chair's Notes by Paul Palazzo

Wow, what a day! The 30th House Tour LiveWorkPlay-FortGreene held on Sunday, May 2, 2010 will go down in the record books. Not only was it the most successful House Tour in FGA history, but Fort Greene really showed the world that we know how to Live, Work, and Play.

The array of homes was as eclectic as the neighborhood, each homeowner displaying their own unique twist on how they make Fort Greene their home. Many thanks go to the homeowners for opening their doors for us all to be inspired and possibly made a bit jealous.

Fort Greene has always been home to an incredible number of artists and this year we highlighted them as well with a special tour of the BAM Opera House, unique performances from the resident arts organizations of A.R.T./NY, and "Genius Loci" an art exhibition of works inspired by Fort Greene. Is it

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NEXT FGA MEETING:

Tuesday, June 29, 7:30 pm
Light Refreshments at 7 pm.

TOPIC: Renovation: The Agony and the Ecstasy

Renovations are trying even more so when you live in an urban historic district. At the next meeting learn about the in and outs on how to achieve your renovation goals. We'll have experts on hand who will help guide you through the process and the paperwork.

Plus all the goings on in Fort Greene and don't forget to come meet your neighbors at 7pm.

LOCATION:

Irondale Center, 85 S. Oxford Street, corner of S. Oxford & Lafayette Ave. (Note new location.)

All are welcome to attend, homeowners & renters alike.



FORT GREENE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

HISTORIC FORT GREENE BROOKLYN

JUNE 2010

Residential Permit Parking

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6. RPP would be pointless without dedicated enforcement. Parking enforcement is, all too often, selective and targeted at the “low-hanging fruit.” We propose that discussions be held with the Traffic Enforcement arm of the New York City Police Department about the enforcement of residential permit parking.

7. Permits, both residential and those issued by government agencies, should be recognized by the Department of Transportation. Ticketing and towing should be equally enforced against all violators, including privately owned vehicles of government and agency employees. The use of fraudulent agency permits should be subject to severe fines, and if a procedure for fining those individuals does not exist, one should be established. Both fraud enforcement and violation of the RPP regulations would bring significant revenue to support RPP.

8. We propose that RPP be tested in the form of a pilot program to evaluate its effectiveness. A recent example was the Downtown Brooklyn Traffic Calming study, in which pilot projects were established and eventually rejected or accepted as being of benefit or not.

RPP Coalition members: Boerum Hill Association, Brooklyn Heights Association, Carroll Gardens, Neighborhood Association, Cobble Hill Association, Concord Village Owners, Inc., Fort Greene Association, Park Slope Civic Council, Prospect Heights Neighborhood Development Council and Society for Clinton Hill.

The FGA would like to hear your thoughts on the proposed RPP and other transportation issues. Email the FGA at traffic@HistoricFortGreene.org.

*The full report is available for download at: http://download.brooklynchamber.com/DBC/Brooklyn_Residential_Permit_Parking.pdf

A House Tour to be Remembered

Continued from first page

true that some artwork was purchased on the day of the Tour? Congratulations to both artist and patron!

Another entry for the record books this year is the first ever **Hebert Scott-Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award** which was bestowed upon longtime neighborhood crusader dorris gains golomb. Long overdue, this award will be an ongoing recognition of the work which our neighbors continue to do to the benefit of our neighborhood. Most definitely inspiring.

But possibly the most inspiring moment of the 30th House Tour is how once again Fort Greene showed to the rest of the world its unique quality. Nowhere else in the City or for that matter the world does a neighborhood throw open its doors and say: “Come on in and let’s be friends. Stay a while, let’s chat and I’ll tell you a little about myself. Be sure to come around again, the door is always open.”

As always we’ll be seeing you soon and don’t forget to keep in touch.

Fort Greene House Tour’s After Party

by Mary Priebe

As our many sitters and other volunteers can attest, the FGA knows how to throw a party! This year’s House Tour After Party – a thank you to all of the home owners, sponsors and volunteers who make the FGA House Tour possible – was a spectacular event. Sitters were invited to enjoy the art exhibition “Genius Loci” curated by Maribeth Flynn of SONYA directly following the tour at 5pm. This was followed by dinner and drinks, with live music at A.R.T./New York’s upstairs Great Room.

Chef Dan Dimarti, of Olea Mediterranean Taverna catered the event, cooking on site as the party started. Delicious hors d’oeuvres were passed around and wine and sodas poured by our bar men, Fred Lasker and Randy Hill. Peter Tulloch of I See Promotions and Roz Heubener were our party organizers, pulling together a marvelous event.

After dinner several guests took to the dance floor to the music of the Fort Greene Trio, with Janis Russell, vocalist. She was backed up by the trio, Mike Weatherly, Jeff Van Nostrand and Tom Olin.

As MC for the evening Jed Marcus thanked all who made the Tour possible and finished up by drawing of names for the Rejuvenation Lighting raffle. Congratulations to Olivia Mark and Richard Batten, our raffle winners! Lucky Olivia will be moving to Fort Greene this month!

Herbert Scott-Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award - dorris gains golomb

The FGA thanks the following Neighborhood Sponsors of the 30th House Tour:

Bernie’s Glass Shop
Different Cleaners
Fred Lasker, Chair, FGA House Tour Sitters Committee
Gnarly Vines Wines & Spirits
Gregory Moreira
Rae Linefsky
Scott Schnall Consulting Eng
Stonehome Wine Bar
Tillie’s of Brooklyn
PLENTY: The Ultimate Guide to Life & Leisure in Clinton Hill/Fort Greene

Newsletter by
Abby Weissman

Photo by Phoebe Ferguson, courtesy of The Hill.



Of all the things that are green in Fort Greene, one thing is decidedly not. I know you have seen her, that flash of lavender, unmistakable and omnipresent, the indomitable **dorris gains golomb**.

dorris must possess superhuman strength, or at least take vitamins, to be on all of the committees she actively participates in. She is a member of the Fort Greene Association Board, Community Board 2 Landmarks Committee, and the Historic Districts Council Advisory Board, to name just a few. Her efforts in bolstering and protecting this community are unparalleled.

dorris gains golomb (and please note the lower case), born a Southern Belle, is first and foremost a Fort Greener. She is disarmingly charming, and ready to wield that charm like a secret weapon upon anyone who may have ill intentions for our neighborhood. Many a dubious development plan has been laid to waste by her sword.

A “locavore” even before the word was coined; dorris prepares the **News scenes** column in the FGA Newsletter featuring neighborhood businesses, one of her deepest passions. If there is a business about to be opened, you can count on dorris to be right there to greet the local business person with a warm welcome, pen and lavender paper in hand to get the scoop. These local merchants are her children. The numerous House Tour Sponsors and the sheer number of new shops are a testament to her ongoing crusade for the businesses of Fort Greene.

Tireless and never complaining, our Super Hero does it all by having Fun.

For her endless work, passion, and all the fun, the Fort Greene Association presents this award in recognition of the Lifetime Achievement of our friend, neighbor, and activist, dorris gains golomb.

As dorris would say: “I hope the day has been Fun, Fun, Fun and if not, go out and get some.”



Scenes from the 2010 Fort Greene House Tour

Photos by Steve Soblick



Congratulations Fort Greene! The 30th House Tour was the most successful ever. Thanks to all the homeowners, sponsors, volunteers, and to the entire Fort Greene community for your support. All of the funds raised will go right back to the neighborhood through the advocacy and public programs of the FGA.

What others are saying:

The home I was in was beautiful. The owner was a Fashion Designer. Many people said his was the brightest & most fun they had seen. It was great being among so many lovely people in the community.

Count me in for next year:
Thx, Nina (House Sitter)

I want to thank you so much for thinking to invite me to participate; in spite of the fact that I am somewhat of a recluse, I enjoyed the whole affair from the getting ready up through the day. I thought Allen and the committee did a spectacular job organizing everything top to bottom - great press, wonderful brochure and party!

Best, Caroline (Homeowner)

This was my first time on the tour and I really enjoyed it. You all worked so hard for a successful event and please thank all the homeowners for me. It was so kind of them to have so many people tramping through their lovely homes.

Regards, Stefani (Tour Guest)

"Just wanted to take a minute and pop you a quick 'thank you' for the wonderful house tour you guys organized yesterday. You remarked that you wanted to set the bar high. You accomplished what you set out to do!

I was impressed with many of the houses on the tour and with all of the sitters. Your volunteers were always very courteous, engaged and pretty knowledgeable about the features of their charge. It was a pleasure to schmooze with them. Please extend my compliments to all.

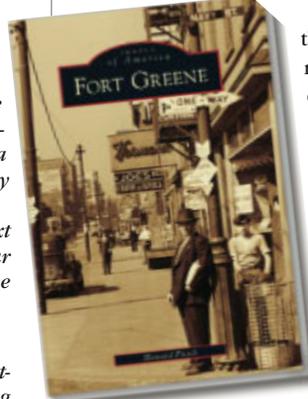
It's a shame to have to wait two years for the next Fort Greene tour, but I will be at the Clinton Hill tour next year. My thanks to you and all the FGA for the tour. It was a great Sunday.

Sincerely, Fred (Tour Guest)

The art show in the garden room today was delightful. It was so well arranged and hung. I enjoyed seeing the work of the other artists, and especially talking to them. I think all of us who were there had a very productive and pleasant time. And the turnout was great. Congratulations, Paul, on the whole successful tour.

Joan (Artist)

Here's What They Say About "FORT GREENE" - the Book:



These comments are about the new pictorial history of our neighborhood called "Fort Greene" by Howard Pitsch, Foreword by Paul Palazzo, 2010, Arcadia Publishing, 128 pages. \$22. Order it online today at HistoricFortGreene.org.

"You might want to take a gander at a wonderful new book by Fort Greene resident and history buff, Howard Pitsch. In addition

to more than a hundred rare photographs documenting the neighborhood's transformation over the past two centuries, there are plenty of fascinating historical anecdotes to sink your teeth into. Neato!"

- Brownstoner Blog

"With images recalling the area's earliest settlers to the recent transformation of DeKalb Avenue into a 'restaurant row,' the book spans the neighborhood's storied history, with attention to the Navy Yard, BAM and the digging of early subway tunnels. Pitsch clearly has an appreciation for detail, including terra cotta and gargoyle-like embellishments. Thumbing through the book gives one a sense not only of the neighborhood's charms, but its place in a broader history."

- Brooklyn Daily Eagle

"I must tell you how much I enjoyed Fort Greene. Brooklyn is very proud of you for assembling this glorious pictorial tribute. The photographs and informative captions are amazing - and the book will be on my office table for visitors to peruse!"

- Brooklyn Borough President, Marty Markowitz

"I've read a lot about Fort Greene history over the past 20 years, but I learned many new things from 'Fort Greene' by Howard Pitsch. Whether you are new to the neighborhood, or a longtime student of Brooklyn history, there is something here for you."

- David Sokosh, The Hill

Scenes from the House Tour After Party



Listen to DK: "Whatever Happens on House Tour, Stays on House Tour."



After a hard day our volunteers unwind.



Fort Greene House Tour - Shiny Happy People



FORT GREENE ASSOCIATION

HISTORIC FORT GREENE BROOKLYN

Next FGA Meeting: Tuesday, June 29, 7:30 pm

Light Refreshments at 7pm. New Location at Irondale Center,
85 S. Oxford Street (corner of S. Oxford & Lafayette Ave.)

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Plus all the goings on in Fort Greene and don't forget to come meet your neighbors at 7pm.

Note new location at Irondale Center.

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NEWSCENES

All Organic 24/7

New to the neighborhood, and a great asset, Myrtle Avenue has a new Organic food market. Mr. Coco at 414 Myrtle Avenue is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They are featuring beautiful fresh produce, dry goods and frozen foods as well as fresh sushi to go and a juice bar.

Owner Yun Tae Yeol welcomes all to come and say hello, and appreciate the variety that they are offering.

Just Because Salon

Congratulations on a lovely evening to Carol of Just Because Salon, 141 Carlton Ave.

The FGA partnered with Carol last year on her Prom project. This year Carol has sponsored artist Richard Blackford, fellow Jamaican, for the Sonya stroll. She threw an opening party Friday, May 14th. You can visit at www.justbecausehairsalon.com and www.richardblackford.com.

ABC Pet Supply, Inc.

Owner Lorant Hargitai has created a bright new store which is loaded with goodies for your pet. 225 DeKalb Avenue, M-Sat 9am - 8:30pm, 718.875.1661, or online at www.abcpetsupply.com. They deliver too!

Feliz

Truly something to be happy about, entering the store will make you grin from ear to ear. Clinton Hill resident Genevieve Platt features eclectic and handmade housewares and gifts in her Variety Store at 185 DeKalb Avenue.

Drop in on W-F 11am- 7pm, Sat 10am - 7pm, and Sun 11am - 7pm. 718.797.1211.

SOUTH OXFORD STREET BABIES

Spring welcomed two new babies on South Oxford Street.

Congratulations to Noah Shackman and Elizabeth Visceglia on the birth of Leo. According to dad, Leo is "damn cute"!

Just across the street, Jennifer and Luis Urrea welcomed Sofia, born March 4th. Big brother, Sebastian loves his new sister.

Reach thousands of Fort Greene households in the mail, via email and on the web by underwriting the FGA Newsletter.

For next sponsorship availability date and for details call 718.875.1855



From last month's 2010 Fort Greene House Tour. See inside for more photos →

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