

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Ordinance related to parking in residential permit parking zones; amending Section 11.23.020 of the Bellevue City Code to remove the exemption that allows people to park or re-park in residential permit parking zones on either side of a public street within the same block for a period exceeding 24 consecutive hours; and establishing an effective date.

Andrew Singelakis, Director, 452-6468

Chris Long, Assistant Director—Mobility Operations, 425-6013

Vanessa Humphreys, Neighborhood Traffic Safety Services Manager, 452-6103

John Murphy, Senior Planner, 452-6967

Transportation Department

Kathy Gerla, City Attorney, 452-7220

Monica Buck, Assistant City Attorney, 452-4082

City Attorney's Office

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To create consistency in parking rules across most public rights of way, this Ordinance will amend Bellevue City Code Section 11.23.020 to remove the exemption that allows people to park or re-park in residential permit parking zones on either side of a public street within the same block for a period exceeding 24 consecutive hours.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Ordinance No. 6686

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Residential permit parking zones (RPZs) in Bellevue were first adopted in 1985. RPZs are areas established by a City Ordinance to restrict non-residential parking on neighborhood streets. Residents and their guests are exempt from the restrictions if they park legally and display an RPZ permit. Zones are generally created where spillover parking occurs in neighborhoods as a result of parking demand generated by facilities such as commercial districts and schools. There are currently 14 zones in Bellevue serving approximately 1,315 households.

There are two sections of the Bellevue City Code that pertain to RPZs.

Section 11.23.010 (Parking Restricted – Specific Streets – Residential permit parking zones) creates the framework to establish RPZs which restrict parking on specified streets except by permits issued to area residents.

Section 11.23.020 (Parking over 24 hours prohibited) of the code disallows people from parking or re-parking a vehicle on either side of a public street within the same block for a period exceeding 24 consecutive hours. There are two exceptions: within authorized time limit zones and in RPZs.

The exemption of RPZs in Section 11.23.020 was implemented as part of the most recent update in

November 2017. RPZs were exempted from the update that amended Section 11.23.020 because there are four RPZs that are wholly located on one block (e.g. on a cul-de-sac street). As Section 11.23.020 notes that “no person may park or re-park a vehicle on either side of a public street within the same block for a period exceeding 24 consecutive hours,” a person living in a one-block RPZ must move to a block outside of the RPZ to not be in violation. As a result, RPZs were exempted from the 2017 code update.

In a recent review of RPZs in the City, evidence indicates that most residents do not rely on on-street parking for their parking needs, there is a large difference in the number of RPZ decals issued and the number of cars parked on the street (i.e., people that request RPZ permits are not parking in public right of way), and survey results suggest most people park their cars off-street.

There is data and evidence from the community to support removing the exemption of RPZs from the 24-hour rule in the City Code, thus creating a more uniform approach to parking rules across the City right of way.

A code change should cause little to no impact on residents living within RPZs and will uniformly apply the 24-hour rule to most parts of the City (though the authorized time limit zones exemption will remain). If passed, residents will be notified of the change. Parking enforcement within RPZs is generally done in response to requests from community members.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Bellevue City Code

BCC 11.23.010 allows for the establishment, by ordinance, residential permit parking zones.

BCC 11.23.020 (Parking over 24 hours prohibited) disallows people from parking or re-parking a vehicle on either side of a public street within the same block for a period exceeding 24 consecutive hours.

The continued creation and maintenance of RPZs is consistent with the following policy in the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan—“TR-145: Minimize spillover parking into residential neighborhoods through residential parking zones and other measures.”

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with implementing these changes.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Ordinance related to parking in residential permit parking zones; amending Section 11.23.020 of the Bellevue City Code to remove the exemption that allows people to park or re-park in residential permit parking zones on either side of a public street within the same block for a period exceeding 24 consecutive hours; and establishing an effective date.
2. Do not adopt the Ordinance and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Vicinity Map
- B. Proposed amendments to BCC 11.23.020 (redline)
Proposed Ordinance No. 6686

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A