RPP REFRESH: AN UPDATE TO THE RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING (RPP) PROGRAM

Subcommittee of the Traffic and Parking Board
MEETING #6

May 20, 2019
City Hall, Council Work Room
AGENDA

1. Meeting #5 and Farmer’s Market Recap
2. Public Comment
3. Discussion of Potential Recommendations
   • Posted Restrictions
   • Permit Fees/Limits
   • Process
4. Wrap-up and Next Steps
RPP REFRESH: An update to the Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Program

PROJECT OVERVIEW

OBJECTIVES

Update the Residential Permit Parking (RPP) program to:

• **better address** current residential parking issues

• improve the City’s ability to **proactively manage** parking

• be **easy** to understand, enforce, and administer
Project Overview

Subcommittee Role

1. Review materials related to the project
2. Provide input on issues to address
3. Receive and consider public feedback
4. Review potential recommendations
5. Update the Traffic and Parking Board
PROJECT OVERVIEW

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC INPUT

1. Subcommittee meetings
2. Online Questionnaires – December 2018 and April 2019
3. Presentations to citizens associations
4. Farmer’s Market feedback - May
5. Traffic and Parking Board Public Hearing
6. City Council Public Hearing
MEETING #5 RECAP

- Questionnaire Results
  - Posted Restrictions
  - Permit Fees/Limits
  - Process
Farmer’s Market Feedback

- Saturday, May 11th
- Market Square Farmer’s Market
- Approximately 30 interactions
- Approximately 15 people participated in the dot exercise
FARMER’S MARKET FEEDBACK

POSTED RESTRICTIONS

WHAT WE’VE HEARD

POSTED END TIMES
- 59% of questionnaire respondents supported reducing the number of options for posted restrictions.
- 67% of questionnaire respondents thought options for restrictions should be different for different RPP districts.
- 5PM, 9PM, and 11PM were the most popular preferred end times for RPP restrictions from questionnaire respondents.

TIME LIMITS
- 49% of questionnaire respondents supported 2-hour parking as the only option for residential parking restrictions.
- Parking enforcement has more difficulty enforcing 3-hour parking restrictions than 2-hour parking restrictions due to the inconsistency and staff schedules.

GENERAL
- Alexandria Commission on Aging recommended making posted restrictions more consistent across the City and from block to block.
- City Council directed staff to explore reducing posted restriction options during the Residential Pay by Phone evaluation process.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Limit end times options to 5PM or 11PM.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

2) Make 2-hour non-resident parking limits the only option for blocks with residential parking restrictions.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Farmer’s Market Feedback

PERMIT FEES/LIMITS

WHAT WE’VE HEARD

PERMIT FEES
- Most questionnaire respondents did not support increasing the annual RPP permit fees for the first, second, or additional vehicles.
- 56% of questionnaire respondents supported exploring different permit fees based on parking capacity and demand, but fewer respondents in RPP districts were in support.
- Permit fees are fairly consistent with other cities.

PERMIT LIMITS
- 56% of questionnaire respondents indicated they would like to see a limit on the number of permits a resident can purchase.
- The average response from questionnaire respondents on the recommended maximum number of permits a resident can obtain was between 3 and 4.
- In 2017, only 1-2% of households had more than 3 RPP permits.

PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Maintain existing permit fee structure.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

2) Do not recommend a maximum number of permits per resident at this time, but continue to monitor number of households with more than 3 permits.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
Farmer’s Market Feedback

Process

What We’ve Heard

Staff-Initiated Process
• 61% of questionnaire respondents supported a staff-initiated process for creating new RPP districts near transit stations.
• 57% supported a staff-initiated process for creating new districts that have a parking issue documented through a City led parking study.
• 51% of respondents preferred that for a staff-initiated process, staff notify affected residential addresses by mail and only proceed if a certain percentage of residents respond they are supportive of the request.

Survey Requirements within Existing RPP Districts
• 45% of all questionnaire respondents supported allowing residents in existing districts to request restrictions for their block without having to parking occupancy survey requirements.
• 60% of respondents who live in an RPP district and don’t have RPP restrictions posted supported this.

Preliminary Recommendations

1) Allow staff-initiated process for creating new RPP districts if staff mail ballots to all affected residences and
   - receive responses from more than 50% of residences
   - At least 60% indicate they support initiative.

What do you think?

2) Remove survey requirement for RPP signage to be posted on blocks already within an RPP district. Maintain petition requirement to initiate the request.

What do you think?
PUBLIC COMMENT
POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

POSTED RESTRICTIONS

• Limit end times options to 5PM and 11PM.
  • 5PM end time is appropriate in areas that experience commuter parking and 11PM is appropriate for areas with visitors to local shops and dining

• Make 2-hour parking the only option for residential parking restrictions.
POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS

PERMIT FEES/LIMITS

• Maintain existing permit fee structure

• Do not recommend a maximum number of permits per resident at this time, but continue to monitor number of households with more than 3 permits.
  • Impact would be limited due to small number with more than 3 permits.
POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS
PROCESS – NEW DISTRICTS

- Establish a new process for creating new RPP districts near transit or in areas with parking issues documented through a City led parking study.
  - Staff send ballots to all addresses within the affected area regarding proposed changes.
  - Require more than 50% of the ballots to be returned by a date specified in the mailing.
  - Of the returned ballots, more than 60% must indicate they support starting the process to create a new district.
  - If ballot requirements are met, proposal for a new district follows current public hearing process.
    - Public hearing at Traffic and Parking Board
    - City Council final approval

- Limit a maximum of 1 to 2 areas per year.

- Set up as a pilot program for three years to allow for evaluation and future modifications.
POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS
PROCESS – EXISTING DISTRICTS

• Remove survey requirement for RPP signage to be posted on blocks already within an RPP district.

• Maintain petition requirement to initiate the request.
**POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES**

**Posted Restrictions**
- Require the same RPP restrictions on both sides of a block.
- Create a process for residents to request a one street buffer for abutting RPP districts to allow residents from either district to park on boundary.
- Clarify vehicles must move off of the block after reaching maximum time limit.

**Permit Limits/Fees**
- Clarify in code and administration that permit fees for first, second, and additional vehicles apply for each address rather than each resident.

**Process**
- Modification of RPP restrictions to require petition by block rather than by block face.
- Clarify who is eligible to sign petitions:
  - include renters living at the address
  - do not include owners who do not live address
- Clarify in code that signatures must be provided from occupants of more than 50% of the residential properties to be eligible.
- Allow Director of Transportation and Environmental Services to approve Traffic and Parking Board Recommendations for RPP modifications and posted signage rather than City Manager.
- Allow Traffic and Parking Board to approve the expansion of an RPP district rather than City Council.
- Allow staff to initiate the process to remove commercial properties with no residential uses from residential parking districts.
NEXT STEPS

• Turn draft recommendations into City Code amendment language

• Traffic and Parking Board Public Hearing – July 2019 (Tentative)

• City Council Public Hearing - Fall 2019
Thank you!

NEXT MEETING: **July 22, 2019 (tentative) at regular Traffic and Parking Board meeting – 7:30PM**

For more information visit alexandriava.gov/ParkingStudies
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