




TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

April 1, 2015

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager 

SUBJECT: Discussion/consideration of pilot residential parking permit system

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss/consider pilot residential parking permit system and direct staff as appropriate.

DISCUSSION

At its February meeting, the Council continued its discussion of the petition submitted by residents regarding Inyo Avenue parking issues. The petition concerned the difficulty for residents of Inyo Avenue to find parking on their street, and included a suggestion to implement residential parking permits to allow parking by permit only between the hours of 12 a.m. and 6 a.m.

The Council decided that it would not move forward with a pilot residential parking system until the community had a greater opportunity to chime in on the issue. The neighborhood area under consideration for a pilot program is bounded by Mono, Inyo, Napa, Pacheco, and Dominga to Sherman streets.

In an effort to maximize community input, staff created an on-line Community Forum on the topic, conducted a Town Forum, and agendaized the item for consideration by the Planning Commission. Outreach efforts included requesting the Chamber of Commerce to solicit input from its membership, mailing out approximately 240 notices to residents in the targeted and adjacent neighborhoods inviting them to participate in the on-line Forum and Town Forum. The Town newsletter and the Town website homepage also highlighted the Forums.

We received a total of 27 responses: 25 on-line, 1 hard copy and 1 email. Attached is a summary report of the on-line results, and a copy of the other two responses. Of the 27 responses, approximately 60% indicated a pilot residential parking system is not needed at this time. The four residents who attended the Town Forum indicated they would submit their comments using the on-line Community Forum. One resident (Steve Ardito) spoke at the Planning Commission (PC) on the topic. The PC recommended the Council consider a pilot residential parking program.

Given the number of residents potentially affected by such a program, the results could be considered inconclusive due to the limited participation. Staff is aware that the neighborhood was conversing on the topic using Nextdoor (a free on-line private social network), but is unsure how many of those residents filled out the on-line survey. Staff recently received approval from Nextdoor for the Town to participate as an Agency, meaning the Town can push out information to residents signed up on Nextdoor, but cannot see any comments posted on Nextdoor.

The options for the Council to consider are: direct staff to (1) create a pilot program seeking additional input from the residents on specific components and report back to the Council in May with a proposal; (2) seek additional input from residents via Nextdoor and report back to the Council in May; or (3) not pursue a program at this time.

FISCAL IMPACT: None at this time

ATTACHMENTS: Summary Report; responses

AGENDA ITEM # 20

SUMMARY REPORT FOR ON-LINE FORUM

Please note that staff did not print out the entire 60 page Summary Report. In order to see the community comments for each section, you will need to go to the Town website at www.townoffairfax.org and click on the Community Forum; then select "feedback", then "summary", then "show answers" under each question.

Unfortunately, the current print report feature does not allow the summary to show the comments by question. Also, you may notice in the Summary Report that under each "comment" section there appear to be random words highlighted and of different font sizes. This is the "word cloud" feature of the on-line platform which identifies the number of times a specific word is used by making the word bigger in size.

Pilot Residential Parking Permit Program

What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?

Introduction

At its November 2014 meeting, the Town Council discussed a petition submitted by residents regarding Inyo Avenue parking issues. The petition concerned the difficulty for residents of Inyo Avenue to find parking on their street, and includes a suggestion to require residential parking permits to allow vehicles to park between the hours of 12 a.m. and 6 a.m.

In December, the Council adopted a resolution to allow overnight parking in the Parkade and Mono Avenue parking lots with the hope that this would alleviate some of the problem in the Inyo neighborhood. The Council also discussed the concept of implementing a pilot residential parking permit system that would require permits to park overnight in a neighborhood.

While a residential parking permit system may appear to be a simple solution to restrict overnight parking, there are always unintended consequences. Parking is analogous to toothpaste: if you block or restrict it, it will overflow in other areas.

Before the Town considers implementing such a system, the Council would like to hear your feedback. The Town Council will consider the issue at their April 1st meeting. Comments received by the March 23rd deadline will be attached to the staff report to the Council.

Pilot Residential Parking Permit Program

What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?

As of March 27, 2015, 9:35 AM, this forum had:

Attendees: 106

On Forum Responses: 25

Hours of Public Comment: 2.0

This topic started on March 2, 2015, 1:42 PM.

Pilot Residential Parking Permit Program

What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?

Responses

1) Should the Town implement a pilot residential parking system requiring a permit for overnight parking for a designated area consisting of several blocks including the Mono, Inyo, Napa, Pacheco, and Dominga to Sherman neighborhoods?

		%	Count
Yes		40.0%	10
No, not needed now		60.0%	15





Comments about question (1), if any:

Answered 17

Skipped 8

- able all blocks do don fairfax from had like live move
neighborhood one out over overnight park parking
patrons permit problem program push put resident residents right SO
street system t theater they think those town up ve who

2) If you live in the proposed pilot area, do you typically have trouble finding a parking space in this area at night? If you do not live in the proposed pilot area, skip to question (5).

		%	Count
Yes		13.3%	2
No		26.7%	4
Sometimes		53.3%	8
Don't know		6.7%	1

Pilot Residential Parking Permit Program

What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?

3) What is the parking problem in the neighborhood primarily related to?

	%	Count
Primarily due to downtown patrons/employees parking in the area.	14.3%	3
Primarily due to the general lack of spaces to accommodate the residents in the neighborhood.	14.3%	3
All of the above	42.9%	9
It's not a problem	14.3%	3
Don't know	14.3%	3

Comments about question (3), if any:

Answered 10
Skipped 15

also any cars different existing generally home just lack **more** most near neighborhoods **park parking** problem program **residents** s spaces street **than** town up **where** which

4) As a resident in the designated area, how many vehicles do you typically (i.e., 3 or more times a week) park overnight on the street?

	%	Count
No vehicles	21.4%	3
1	64.3%	9
2	14.3%	2

Comments about question (4), if any:

Pilot Residential Parking Permit Program

What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?

Answered 5

Skipped 20

2 cars day **don driveway** kids **open** parked parking **residents** so spaces **spots t up**

5) If you do not live in the proposed pilot area, do you park in those neighborhoods?

	%	Count
Yes, because of the lack of evening parking in my neighborhood	14.3%	2
Yes, but only when I visit downtown or friends in the area	21.4%	3
No, I never or rarely ever park there.	64.3%	9

6) If you do not live in the pilot area, but park in the area: On the average, how often do you park overnight in the area?

	%	Count
Once or less a week	12.5%	1
2-3 times a week	12.5%	1
Rarely or never	75.0%	6

7) How would you be impacted if a program were implemented for that area and you were not eligible for a parking permit?

	%	Count
I would just park in another neighborhood	29.4%	5
I would park in the downtown parking lots now that the Parkade and Mono St. Parking lots allow for overnight parking.	23.5%	4

Pilot Residential Parking Permit Program

What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?





		%	Count
Don't Know/no impact		47.1%	8

Comments about question (7), if any:

Answered	13
Skipped	12

- **allowed** also any **area** areas block cars children **dominga**
downtown fairfax fear **find** from guests household just **live**
local may more **need** neighborhood neighborhoods often **ONE** open
outside overnight park parking pilot space street t
they town two up




8) If the Town implements a pilot program, how should the permits be issued to the residents in the area?

		%	Count
Issue a maximum of two (2) parking permits per household without proof of registration		16.0%	4
Issue parking permits based the number of registered vehicles to a household		24.0%	6
Don't know		8.0%	2
Other		52.0%	13

9) In addition to the permanent permits, should the Town consider selling guest parking permits to residents in the area?

Pilot Residential Parking Permit Program

What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?





		%	Count
Yes		25.0%	6
No		62.5%	15
Don't know		12.5%	3

Comments about question (9), if any:

Answered 15
Skipped 10

all another any **charge cost** don **each equitable face family find**
guest guests home **idea** implement income landholder living **only**
 overnight **parking** passes permit permits program
residents s selling street t **them then they those town** very
want was where

10) Would it be acceptable for the Town to charge a parking permit fee to cover the administrative costs of implementing and managing such a pilot program?

		%	Count
Yes		33.3%	8
No		45.8%	11
Depends on the amount		8.3%	2
Don't know/no opinion		12.5%	3

Comments about question (10), if any:

Pilot Residential Parking Permit Program




What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?

Answered 13

Skipped 12

- additional administrative costs do enough extra from funds he his how idea just more neighborhood neighborhoods park parking patrons pay permits please police program public residents since spaces staff street t take they think time town who

Should the Town explore a managed parking system for the downtown area and adjacent neighborhoods before implementing a pilot parking program?

		%	Count
Yes		21.7%	5
No, don't wait		39.1%	9
Don't know/no opinion		39.1%	9

12) Please provide any general comments on the pilot residential parking program.

Answered 19

Skipped 6

all also data do downtown fairfax first get how into let live lot more need needs neighborhood neighborhoods now other out park parking pay people permits plan please program residents S some t think time town very way weekends who

Name not shown inside Town of Fairfax

March 25, 2015, 2:43 PM

What are your thoughts about a residential parking permit system?

Introduction Feedback Your Response Outcome

1) Should the Town implement a pilot residential parking system requiring a permit for overnight parking for a designated area consisting of several blocks including the Mono, Inyo, Napa, Pacheco, and Dominga to Sherr neighborhoods?

- Yes
- Yes, but try it in a different neighborhood
- No, not needed now
- Undecided/no opinion

TOWN OF FAIRFAX

MAR 24 2015

RECEIVED

Comments about question (1), if any:

It would be better to include all downtown neighborhoods, I think.

Check out our guidelines for civility

2) If you live in the proposed pilot area, do you typically have trouble finding a parking space this area at night? If you do not live in the proposed pilot area, skip to question (5).

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes
- Don't know

3) What is the parking problem in the neighborhood primarily related to?

- Primarily due to Fairfax residents from other neighborhoods parking in the area.
- Primarily due to downtown patrons/employees parking in the area.
- Primarily due to the general lack of spaces to accommodate the residents in the neighborhood
- All of the above
- It's not a problem
- Don't know

9) In addition to the permanent permits, should the Town consider selling guest parking permits to residents in the area?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Comments about question (9), if any:

10) Would it be acceptable for the Town to charge a parking permit fee to cover the administrative costs of implementing and managing such a pilot program?

- Yes
- No
- Depends on the amount
- Don't know/no opinion

Comments about question (10), if any:

11) A managed parking plan would be a comprehensive approach to address such issues as demand pricing for parking, permit fees, and permit areas, hours of parking, administration, and enforcement.

Should the Town explore a managed parking system for the downtown area and adjacent neighborhoods before implementing a pilot parking program?

- Yes
- No, don't wait
- Don't know/no opinion

→ Although parking can be a problem, I would prefer it remain as is. This Town has a free spirit and I'm opposed to excess regulations and enforcement by PD.

12) Please provide any general comments on the pilot residential parking program.

Garrett Toy

From: elana vollen
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 11:55 AM
To: Garrett Toy
Subject: parking permits in downtown neighborhood

Hello,

I wasn't able to complete the survey on line because of some technical issue but I wanted to weigh in my opinion on the pending decision to require overnight parking permits in the downtown fairfax neighborhood around Inyo/Mono/Pacheco/Dominga streets.

I live at [redacted] on the corner of Dominga and yes, parking does get tough at times but mostly on a sunday night (due to street cleaning monday morning). And the times it is toughest are weekend evenings, when a lot of people are coming to town to see a movie or eat dinner or go to a music club. By midnight, usually parking is freed up so making permits required from midnight to 6 a.m. does not at all address the problem.

I, for one, would not like to have permits required at any time because it is a hindrance on my guests and I imagine it will cost money like it does in San Anselmo and I already think the cost of living here is high enough and we do not need another legislative thing taxing our personal resources. I, for one, have never not been able to find a parking space in my neighborhood within a reasonable distance to my house in the two years that I have been living here, and I do not have access to a driveway.

Thanks for hearing my opinion

Elana Cydney Vollen - Oceana Wellness

www.oceanawellness.com

Supporting you to shine your brightest!