

SAFE PARKING COMMUNITY MEETING

NOVEMBER 5TH, 2025



City of San Rafael

AGENDA

1. Background
2. Pilot Project – Lincoln Hill
3. Outreach
4. Existing parking rules and standards
5. Evaluation Process
6. Public Works considerations
7. Q&A

SAN RAFAEL'S WILDFIRE PREVENTION EFFORTS

Year	Action
2007	Vegetation standards were first adopted and updated in 2021
2019	Wildfire Prevention and Protection Action plan was drafted, reviewed, and supported by the Citizens Wildfire Advisory Committee
2020	Measure C Funds and the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA)
2020	San Rafael Fire has been able to take action towards wildfire prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Vegetation management projects- City-wide inspection program- Open Space Rangers to patrol for signs of camping activity and more.
2021	In February 2021, an ordinance proposing to amend San Rafael Municipal Code Section 5.40.080 to include parking restrictions on narrow, hilly streets throughout the City was approved by City Council.
	Work begins on developing a pilot program on Lincoln Hill and outlining future efforts to provide adequate
2022 - Present	Parking amendments are implemented and installed as roadways are assessed, measured, and reviewed by Fire and Public Works personnel.

OUTREACH

- Wildfire Action Plan
- Citizens Wildfire Action Plan Oversight Advisory Committee
- Ongoing use of social media, City website and Nextdoor
- Direct outreach to NA/HOA/Community leaders
- Mailings to residents on affected streets
- A-Frame postings

SAN RAFAEL LINCOLN HILL PILOT PROJECT



Outreach



Roadside vegetation management



Engine feedback



Resident Feedback



Parking Boxes



Signage



Case by Case review by request and adjustments as necessary



LONG STANDING PARKING RULE: 6FT FROM CENTER



The City's Municipal Code (section 5.40.080) states, in part: "Parking of vehicles upon any city street is prohibited unless an unobstructed distance of not less than six feet (6') is maintained to the centerline or to the center of the improved or main traveled portion of the street".

- It is confusing
- Centerlines often are not marked
- Difficult to enforce
- Has existed for decades, though parking habits remain unchanged

WHAT IS OFF-STREET PARKING? ALL 4 TIRES OFF THE ROAD



Parking
Boxes

Red Curbs

No parking
signs

No parking
this side

No parking
on street

Shoulder
Striping

PARKING RESTRICTIONS OPTIONS

INTERVIEW FIRECREWS

Where do they have access
issues?

Watch
Video: [IMG_0248.MOV](#)



MEASURE ROAD WIDTHS STREET BY STREET



Legal minimum roadway width: 12 ft
per travel lane

Legal minimum parking spot width: 7ft

Turn Radius rules

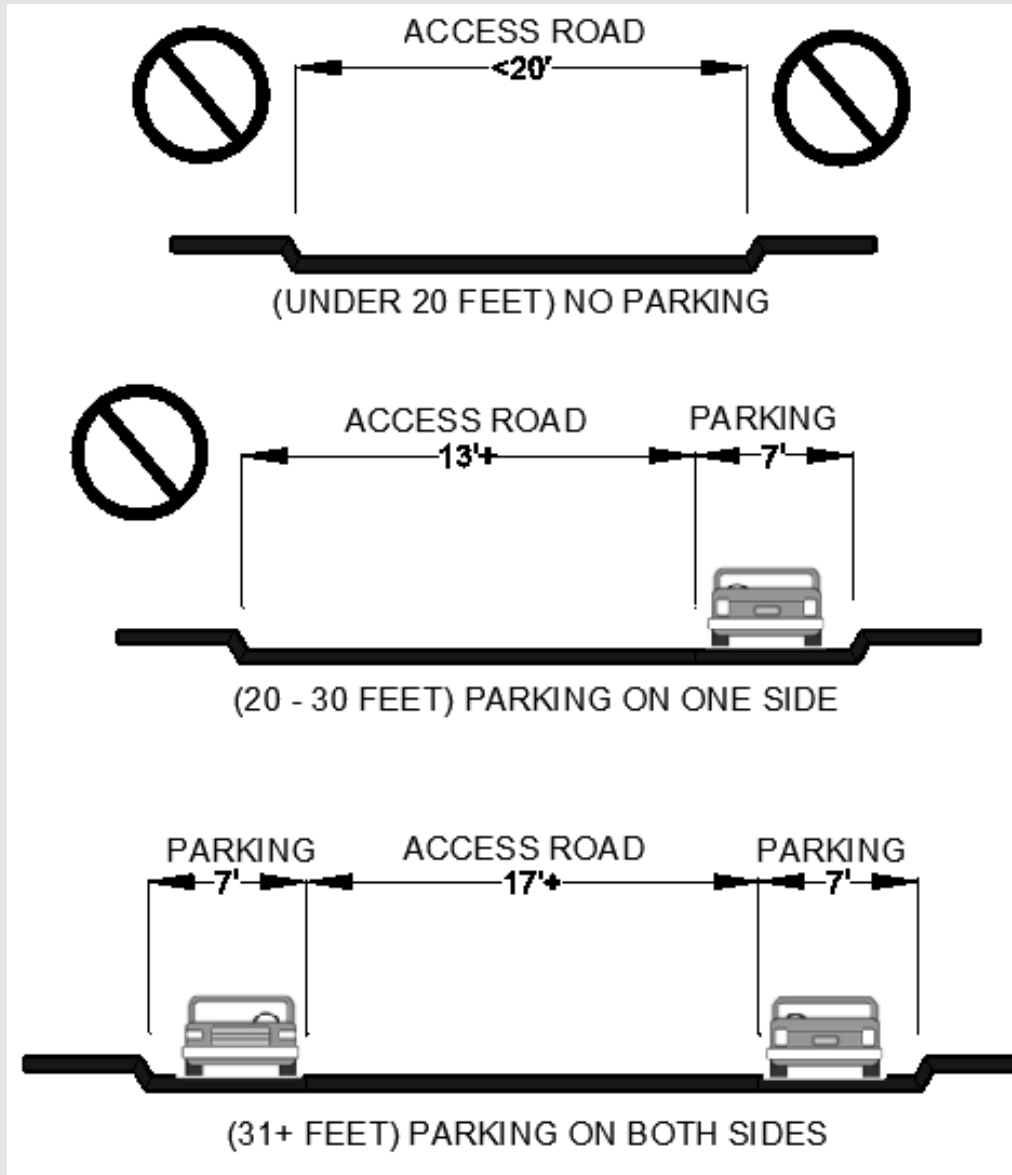
Minimum width of a road for NEW
construction is 20 feet per CA Fire
code

TRAFFIC LAWS AND MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

ANALYZE MEASUREMENTS TO ALLOW FOR THE MOST PARKING

For existing roads:

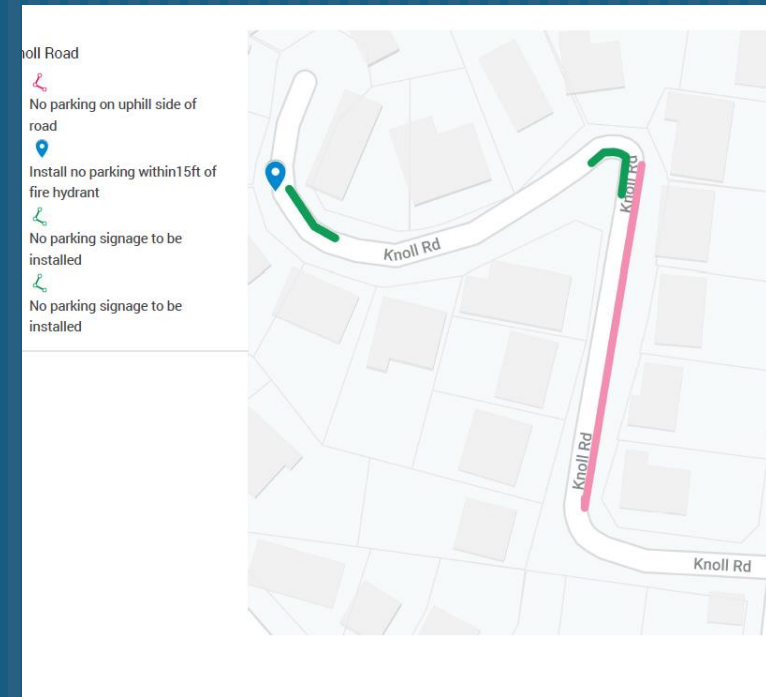
- Minimum width needed for a fire engine to move = 12 feet
- Minimum width needed for a parking space = 7 feet
- Why is it more with parking on both sides?
 - Because the engine needs to be able to open their doors, pull hose, and fully operate if cars are parked on both sides.



SPACE NEEDED TO OPERATE

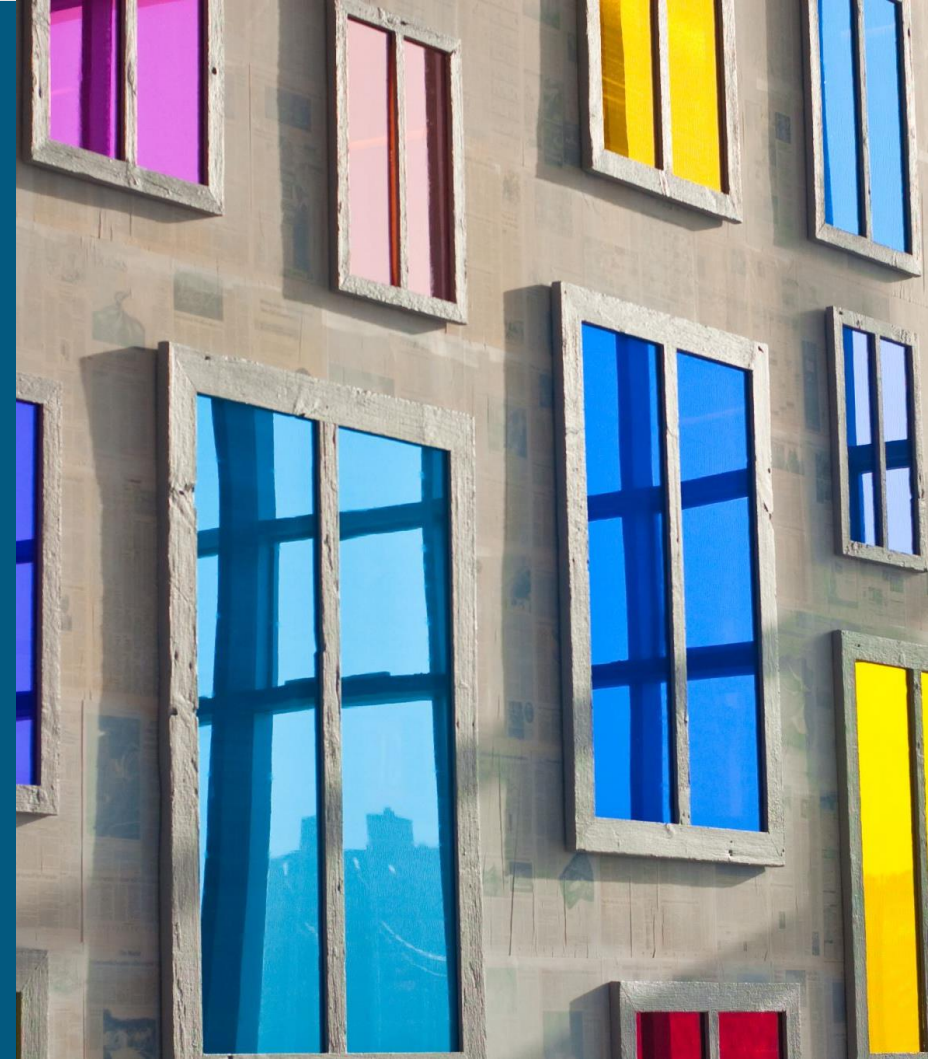


MARK BOXES OR DETERMINE WHICH SIDE CAN ACCOMMODATE THE MOST PARKING



CONSIDERATIONS

- Assuring access and egress of all vehicles
- Visibility
- Roadway Width
- Turning Radius of large vehicles
- Traffic Patterns
- Vegetation
- Direction of Evacuation
- Pedestrian Safety, including ADA and Crosswalks
- Existing Elements
- Ease to understand and enforce
- Subject Matter Expertise
- Public Feedback



OPPORTUNITIES TO CREATE MORE ON-SITE PARKING

ORDINANCE LANGUAGE

14.18.150 - Alternate parking locations for uses with insufficient parking.

To reduce existing on-street parking congestion where dwelling units were legally built with fewer than the currently required number of parking spaces, additional on-site parking for vehicles belonging to the residents of such developments shall be permitted as follows.

A. The zoning administrator, by environmental and design review permit, may approve, for single-family or duplex units, the location, including tandem parking, of additional parking spaces in the front or street side yards, providing that the following findings can be made:

1. Additional on-site parking is not used as the basis for increasing the number of residential units;
2. Such parking will not create hazards by obstructing views to or from adjoining sidewalks and streets;
3. Fifty percent (50%) of the front and street side yards are landscaped.

B. The zoning administrator, by environmental and design review permit, may approve, for multifamily development, additional on-site parking in patterns or locations that do not meet current standards, providing that the following findings can be made:

1. Such parking will not create a hazard or nuisance to the neighborhood or adjoining neighbors;
2. Such parking is likely to be used;
3. Such parking will reduce existing on-street parking congestion;
4. Needed on-site recreation facilities are not adversely affected.

MONTECITO

Safer Access and Egress Clarifications

Neighborhood Name: Montecito/ Happy Valley

Street Name	Restriction Type	Marking Type
Embarcadero Way	Parking Clarification	Additional Signage
Jewell Street	Parking Clarification	Additional Signage
Ridge Avenue	Parking Box Street	Section(s) of White Stripe
Marine Court Drive	Parking Box Street	Section(s) of White Stripe
Valencia Avenue	No Parking Zone	Red Curb

LINCOLN

Safer Access and Egress Clarifications

Neighborhood Name: Lincoln/ San Rafael Hill

Street Name	Restriction Type	Marking Type
Glenwood Drive	Parking Clarification	Section(s) of White Stripe
Hamilton Court	No Parking on Roadway	Signage
Wilkins Street	No Parking Zone	Section(s) of Red Curb

GERSTLE PARK

Safer Access and Egress Clarifications

Neighborhood Name: Gerstle Park

Street Name	Restriction Type	Marking Type
Alvina Avenue	No Parking Zone	Section(s) of Red Curb
Oak Avenue	No Parking Zone	Signage
Grove Street	No Parking Zone	Signage
Pleasant Lane	Parking Clarification	Section(s) of Red Curb
Woods Street	Parking Clarification	Section(s) of Red Curb
Upper Toyon	No Parking on Paved Roads	Signs

DOMINICAN

Safer Access and Egress Clarifications

Neighborhood Name: Dominican/ Black Canyon

Street Name	Restriction Type	Marking Type
Clyde Avenue	No Parking Zone	Section(s) of Red Curb & Signs
Elm Street	No Parking Zone	Signage
Gold Hill Grade	No Parking on Roadway	Signage
Lillian Lane	No Parking on Roadway	Signage
Linden Lane	No Parking on Roadway	Signage
Williams Street	No Parking on Roadway	Signage

ADDITIONAL/ CASE BY CASE

Safer Access and Egress Clarifications

Neighborhood Name: Additional

Street Name	Restriction Type	Marking Type
Southern Heights Boulevard	No Parking on Roadway	Additional Signage
Forbes Avenue	No Parking Zone	Section(s) of Red Curb
Bellevue Avenue	No Parking on Roadway	Signage
Roberts Avenue	No Parking on Roadway	Additional Signage

NEXT STEPS

- [Community Meeting](#) on Wednesday November 12th at 6:00 PM
 - Marking of parking clarifications in orange paint
 - Final review of markings with City Traffic Engineer and Fire Crews
 - Tentative implementation starting Dec 1, 2025
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- Contact us at srfd.dspace@cityofsanrafael.org
 - Learn more at SRFD.org/safeparking

Q&A