



"A City that Works"

City of Bell Gardens

Residential Permit Parking Policy

Introduction

The City Council may designate, by resolution, certain residential streets, or portion thereof as residential preferential parking districts for the benefit of residents adjacent to such residential streets, in which vehicles displaying a permit may be exempt from parking prohibitions or restrictions not otherwise posted, marked, or noticed. Each residential preferential parking district shall be established only upon finding that such a district is required to provide on-street parking relief for inhabitants of residential neighborhoods which have become impacted due to overflow parking from nearby uses which are unable to contain their on-site parking demand. No resolution designating a residential preferential parking district shall be enforceable until signs giving adequate notice have been installed on the block.

The permit parking exemption is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) A motor vehicle on which is properly displayed a residential parking permit, as provided for herein shall be permitted to stand or be parked in the designated parking district for which the permit has been issued without being limited by time restrictions established for the street(s) within that district. Any authorized motor vehicle which does not display such permit shall be subject to citation.

- (2) A residential parking permit shall not guarantee or reserve to the holder thereof an on-street parking space within the designated parking district.

- (3) This section shall not exempt the permit holder from other traffic controls and regulations existing in the designated parking district, including parking restrictions or prohibitions in effect Citywide for purposes such as street sweeping, roadwork, discouraging overnight disturbances, or similar notices.

- (4) This section shall not allow the permit holder to stop, park, or leave standing his or her vehicle for more than seventy-two (72) hours.

Exemption of Certain Vehicles—Permit Display:

(1) No person shall, without a properly displayed parking permit, park, stop, or leave, standing any unauthorized motor vehicle in a residential preferential permit parking district during the posted parking prohibition or restriction in excess of the posted parking restriction or where parking restrictions have been established for the street(s) within the district, except for the following:

(i) Otherwise lawfully parked repair, service, maintenance, utility, fuel, delivery, or city vehicles parked for reasonable amounts of time while conducting business within the residential preferential parking district.

(ii) Police, fire, or other law enforcement, public safety, or emergency vehicles operated by or under the authority of a governmental entity while engaged in the performance of official duties; or

(iii) Otherwise lawfully parked motor vehicles used by disabled persons meeting the requirements California Vehicle Code Sections 22511.5 or disabled veterans meeting the requirements of California Vehicle Code Section 9105 and displaying appropriate disabled license plates or placards.

Designation of a Residential Permitted Parking District:

(1) An area shall be evaluated for the designation as a residential permit parking district if the residents of the proposed parking district submit an application with a petition that contains, at minimum, the following elements:

(i) A description and/or map showing the proposed district.

(ii) A petition containing the signature, printed name, date of signing, and address of owners of at least seventy percent (70%) of the dwelling units within the proposed district.

(iii) The name, telephone number, and email of the applicant(s) who will be the designated representative for the application; and

(iv) The requested hours and days of the parking restriction or prohibition.

(2) The eligibility of a proposed residential parking permit district shall be evaluated upon the basis of the following criteria:

(i) The proposed permitted parking district is at least three quarters, seventy-five percent (75%), single-family residential and includes whole blocks. For purposes of this section, "whole block" shall be defined as the entire portion of a street block from intersection to intersection. The proposed parking district shall also include both sides of a street, unless the City Traffic Engineer determines this to be impractical or undesirable.

(ii) Each single-family residence shall have one vote for the petition of the proposed permit parking district. Each dwelling unit of a multi-family property shall have one vote for the petition of the proposed permit parking district. Multi-family properties, if any, within the proposed district boundaries consist of duplexes, triplexes, or fourplexes only.

(iii) At least seventy-five percent (75%) of the on-street parking spaces within the proposed district boundaries are occupied during the time of the requested parking prohibition or restriction.

(iv) A survey to confirm that a minimum of twenty-five percent (25%) of the vehicle parking spaces within the proposed restricted or prohibited parking hours must be registered to nonresidents of the proposed district. For purposes of this section, "nonresident" shall be defined as an individual who resides outside of the district boundaries.

(v) The street block in question is a designated residential street. For purposes of this section, "residential street" shall be defined as any street that meet the criteria of "local streets" as defined in the General Plan and are not considered Major Highways, Secondary Highways, Collector Streets as shown in Exhibit 3-1 of "Section 3 Circulation and Transportation Element."

(vi) No alternative solution is practical or reasonable.

(vii) Such other criteria as the City Traffic Engineer determines necessary, including, but not limited to the extent to which vehicles owned by residents of the area could be accommodated by off-street parking spaces.

(3) After an application and petition satisfying the eligibility requirements is received by the Director of Public Works, the City Traffic Engineer and Public Works staff shall begin to undertake surveys or studies as necessary, and after completion of all necessary surveys and studies, shall notify the applicant whether the establishment of a residential permit parking district will be recommended to the Public Works Traffic & Safety Commission. If approved by

the Public Works Traffic & Safety Commission, the residential preferential permit parking district shall then be recommended for consideration by the City Council for approval and establishment.

(4) Upon recommendation of the Director of Public Works and City Engineer, the City Council shall request a public hearing for the purpose of determining whether a proper basis exists for making findings. Notice of such public hearing shall be given at least ten (10) days prior to the hearing by publication in a newspaper of general circulation and by mailing to the property owners as shown on the last equalized assessment roll, and to the occupants of each parcel in the proposed district and within four hundred feet (400') of the proposed district boundaries.

(5) Once a resolution establishing a residential preferential parking district is established, parking permits must be issued to at least fifty percent (50%) of the residential units in the district before signs will be installed designating the preferential parking district. If the minimum number of permits is not obtained within sixty (60) days, or the number of permit holders drops below fifty percent (50%) following annual permit renewals, the residential preferential parking district may be terminated by resolution of the City Council at a public hearing noticed as described above.

(6) Upon receipt and verification of a petition signed by a majority (fifty percent (50%) plus one (1)) of the property owners within an established district, a residential preferential parking district may be terminated by resolution of the City Council at a public hearing noticed as described above. Such determination shall be based upon a finding that the conditions set forth in the establishing resolution no longer exist or have diminished to such extent as to make unnecessary the continuation of the district.

Issuance of Parking Permits:

(1) The Public Works Department shall issue residential parking permits for residential preferential parking applicants who have completed an application form supplied by the City. Applicants for such permits shall present such proof of residency through a utility bill, vehicle registration, driver's license, or proof of auto insurance. Not more than one (1) residential permit may be issued for each single-family dwelling unit and not more than one (1) residential permit may be issued for each multi-family dwelling unit. The residential permit will be issued to the owner or occupant for single-family dwelling units or to the owner or his or her authorized representative for the multi-family dwelling units.

(2) The City Traffic Engineer is authorized to issue an additional preferential parking permit per dwelling unit if the applicant satisfies all the following conditions:

(i) The applicant submits vehicle registration or proof of auto insurance that more than one vehicle is registered to occupant(s) of the dwelling unit.

(ii) The applicant demonstrates that his or her dwelling unit has insufficient off-street parking.

(iii) The applicant demonstrates that there is an adequate number of reasonably convenient residentially related on-street parking spaces in the area of the applicant's residence, sufficient to accommodate the vehicle for which the additional permit is requested.

(iv) The applicant establishes that an undue hardship will result if the request for an additional permit is not granted.

(v) The applicant forfeits his opportunity to obtain a guest parking permit if said applicant obtains a second preferential parking permit.

(3) The City reserves the right to implement an annual fee in accordance with the cost of administering the enforcement of such permit. Fee for residential parking permit shall be established by resolution of the City Council and may be amended from time to time.

(4) Permits issued pursuant to this section, with the exception of temporary permits, shall remain effective through the end of the fiscal year so long as the applicant continues to reside at the address set forth in the application and continues to own the vehicle to which the permit is attached, and so long as the district for which the permit was issued remains in effect.

(5) An owner or occupant residing within a preferential parking district may apply for temporary parking permits once per month to exempt guests or visitors from the posted parking prohibition or restriction. Residents may apply for a maximum of one (1) temporary permit for any given 24-hour period. The temporary parking permits are valid for one (1) day maximum.

(6) Permits shall be placed upon or inside a vehicle as specified in the instructions accompanying the permit issued by the Public Works Department.

(7) Each person shall be subject in all conditions and restrictions set forth in this section and of the residential preferential parking district for which it is issued. The issuance of such a permit shall not be construed to be a permit for, or approval of, any violation of any provision of this Code or any other laws or regulations.

(8) Such fees as may be required shall be set from time to time by resolution of the City Council and shall be subject to change annually depending on actual costs incurred by the City for administering the program. Examples include but not limited to fabricating and posting the signs (including one (1) set of spare signs) and all other staff charges incurred as necessary to establish and eventually remove (if necessary) the district.

(9) The number of parking permits issued for a given district shall not exceed one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the total number of available on-street parking spaces within the given district.

(10) Permits shall not be issued to semi-tractor trucks, motor homes, motorcycles, boats, travel and utility trailers, and for vehicles posted for sale.

(11) Multi-family properties consisting of five or more units shall be excluded from issuance of parking permits.

Petition for Preferential Parking Districts



City of Bell Gardens Department of Public Works

Petition the Engineering Division to initiate proceedings to study and investigate implementing a preferential parking district within the desired location.

We, the undersigned **registered owners** of the properties on _____ (both sides of the street) between _____ and _____, hereby request the establishment of a parking prohibition (No Parking Anytime) to be in effect between the hours of _____ and _____ from _____ (day) to _____ (day), and a preferential parking district to exempt permit-holders from the proposed parking prohibition.

We understand that each residential household is entitled to up to one (1) residential permit (transferrable between vehicles) and one (1) guest permit (transferrable between vehicles). The residential permit must be purchased and renewed annually in accordance with the cost of administering the enforcement of such permit. Fee for residential permit shall be established by resolution of the City Council and may be amended from time to time. The guest permit may be obtained for any 24-hour time frame. Owners and occupants may obtain one guest permit per month. Guest permits will be available without fees.

We specifically understand that vehicles displaying preferential parking permits will still be subject to street sweeping parking restrictions. In addition, the following types of vehicles are not eligible for preferential parking permits: semi-tractor trucks, motorhomes, motorcycles, boats, travel and utility trailers, and for vehicles posted for sale. Furthermore, preferential permit parking holders are not guaranteed parking spaces on a preferential parking district due to the limited on-street parking available on this street block.

By signing this petition, I acknowledge that I live along the segment where the applicant is requesting a change. I, as a neighbor of the applicant, support my neighbor's application. The City requires the applicant to obtain signatures of 70% of registered owners of the dwelling units to approve the requested changes. All applications must obtain the City of Bell Gardens Traffic Authority approval before any action will be taken.

PRINT NAME	SIGNATURE	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	DATE	EMAIL

