



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

November 5, 2014

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager 

SUBJECT: Discuss Residents' Petition regarding parking issues in the Inyo Avenue neighborhood

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss residents' petition regarding parking issues in the Inyo Avenue neighborhood and direct staff as appropriate.

DISCUSSION

A group of 28 residents has submitted the attached Inyo Avenue parking issues petition to the Council for inclusion on the agenda. Pursuant to Town Code 2.08.090 (C), if the Council is presented with a petition signed by 25 residents urging consideration of an issue, the issue shall be placed on the Council's agenda for discussion.

The petition concerns the difficulty for residents of Inyo Avenue to find parking on their street, and includes 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 development of a residential parking permit system should be considered as part of comprehensive managed parking plan which would include downtown and the adjacent neighborhoods. A managed parking plan would address such issues as demand pricing for parking, permit fees, permit areas, hours of parking, administration, and enforcement. A managed parking plan was slated to be discussed and considered as part of the process to develop the Town Center Element. However, that process was delayed as the Town Council needed to address more pressing land use issues.

In the interim, if the primary issue for the Inyo residents is overnight parking in their neighborhood, the Council could consider allowing overnight parking in the Parkade parking lot. This would also allow those neighborhoods who must move their vehicles for street sweeping on Monday to park in the Parkade on Sunday night. Staff would inform the neighborhoods with posted street sweeping signs of the ability to park in the Parkade. Staff would also monitor the parking situation to evaluate its impacts. Should the Council wish to allow overnight parking in the Parkade, staff would return in December with the required resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time

ATTACHMENT

Residents' Petition (identifying information redacted)

AGENDA ITEM # 19

RECEIVED

OCT 17 2014

INYO AVENUE PARKING ISSUES

TOWN OF FAIRFAX

Parking for residents near downtown Fairfax is problematic at best. The homeowners and residents of Inyo Avenue are being impacted and increasingly frustrated by the issues caused by the parking of transient commercial or recreational vehicles, patrons of downtown businesses, overnight "campers" and long-term stays. Often times, Inyo residents or our guests cannot find parking on our own street.

The drivers of these non-resident vehicles create concerns ranging from home security to public health and safety. These vehicles are often parked carelessly, facing the wrong direction (driving on the wrong side of the road) and occasionally blocking emergency access, fire hydrants and driveways. Inyo Avenue residents have been exposed to property damage, late night and drunken disturbances, used condoms, public urination and vomit, and an increase of litter and trash, among other questionable activities. Long-term non-resident parking is a "shell game" with violators moving their vehicles just far enough to "reset the clock" after being tagged by police.

The signage posted to "voluntarily" keep overflow parking from downtown business out of our neighborhood is ineffective, without consequence, and unenforceable! The downtown parking shortage is impacting other neighboring streets (Pacheco, Mono, Napa, Dominga) in the immediate vicinity and creating a domino effect and quality of life issue.

While we understand the town's need for a vigorous business district and the resulting influx of patrons, the town must also understand the residents' need for a quality of life. The town of Fairfax needs to balance these needs and initiate and enforce a proactive solution to protect both.

To this end, we suggest implementation of residential permit parking for streets in the immediate vicinity of the downtown area. Permits should be issued free of charge, or at minimal cost, to residents (with address verification) for their respective streets, renewable annually. On-street parking would be allowed by permit only, for residents only, between the hours of 12 am and 6 am; violators would be cited. Not only would this program provide relief to the affected residents for many of the issues listed, it is easily enforceable and could be self-funding and a potential revenue stream (from parking violations) for the town of Fairfax.

ADDRESS (PLEASE PRINT)	NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	SIGNATURE
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