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Subj: **Motion to allow on-street parking in front of drive ways - opposed**
Date: 7/26/2011 11:07:22 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time
From: Hrtoppel@aol.com
To: councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org, Councilmember.labonge@lacity.org, Councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org,
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BCC: mnewhouse@newhouseseroussi.com

Dear Councilman Rosendahl:
Dear Transportation Committee:

On July 27, at 2:00 p.m. at CH Rm. 1010, a hearing will be held to discuss the merits of on-street parking in front of ones own driveway.

The Marquez Knolls Property Owners Association opposes the Motion to allow on-street parking in front of ones own drive way.

This issue was raised last year in our community, after residents in Marquez Knolls complained about receiving parking tickets for parking in front of their drive way in a location where curbside parking is very limited. Initially and intuitively, this sounded like a bad law that needed changing. What harm could there possibly be in blocking YOUR OWN driveway?!

When that issue was raised at our Board meeting, however, a different picture emerged. I am presenting our concerns to you and the Transportation Committee for consideration. We believe that the issues discussed here are not local issues but do apply to other neighborhoods as well.

e-mail excerpts:

Lets presuppose that drive way parking is an issue when on-street parking spaces are at a premium. This is already the case on many streets in Marquez Knolls, and those street are usually narrow and the blocks between cross streets are often long in the hillsides.

Under those conditions, on narrow streets with cars parked on both sides, there will be no space left for cars to move out of the way into the spaces in front of drive ways to make room for oncoming traffic.

Under those conditions, there will be no space to turn around using somebody's drive way.

And most importantly, under those conditions, there will be no place to park for emergency vehicles in front of a residence in need.

In December of 2010, MKPOA sent out this message to the 400+ members of the Electronic Community Communication (e-com) e-mail distribution system, explaining the issues with the driveway parking rule, and not a single voice opposing the concerns was received back. This is highly unusual in this very verbal community with usually diverse view points. This may serve as a window for the Transportation Committee to preview the sentiments of other communities, once the consequences are understood.

In today's world, not only do families have more cars, but more and more households are using their garages for household item storage or are converting them (illegally) into livable spaces. This is contrary to the intention of the zoning code requirements that provide for a specific number of garage or carport spaces to house cars not storage or people. The drive way parking allowance will only promote further misuse of required garage spaces.

For these reasons, MKPOA opposes on-street parking in front of any driveway.

Sincerely,

Christy Dennis, President
Haldis Toppel, Vice President

Date: 7-27-11
Submitted in Trans Committee
Council File No: 10-1673
Item No.: 5
Deputy: