

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

Date: December 8, 2014

To: The Honorable City Council, City of Los Angeles
c/o City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall
Attention: Honorable Mike Bonin, Chair, Transportation Committee

From: Seleta J. Reynolds,  General Manager
Department of Transportation

Subject: **ESTABLISHMENT OF OVERNIGHT PARKING DISTRICT NO. 551 FOR 30th STREET AND 31st STREET NEAR ST. ANDREWS PLACE IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 10**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) recommends the establishment of an Overnight Parking District (OPD) near the intersection of 30th Street and Western Avenue.

RECOMMENDATION

1. FIND that the Police Department should have the primary responsibility for the enforcement of the authorized overnight parking restriction in OPD No. 551, with support from LADOT Parking Enforcement, since the reported problems involve criminal activity.
2. FIND that the establishment of this OPD is exempt from CEQA as a Class I Categorical Exemption under III.1.a.3 of the 2002 Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines.
3. ADOPT the attached Resolution establishing Overnight Parking District (OPD) No. 551, pursuant to Section 80.54 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC), to include both sides of the street within the area bounded in a clockwise manner: 30th Street between St. Andrews Place and the alley west of Western Avenue, the alley west of Western Avenue between 30th Street and 31st Street, the alley west of Western Boulevard on 31st Street and St. Andrews Place and the centerline of St. Andrews Place between 31st Street and 30th Street.
4. AUTHORIZE permit sales to all residents of OPD No. 551 when signs are posted.
5. AUTHORIZE posting or removal of "No Parking, 2 AM to 6 AM; District No. 551 Permits Exempt" parking restriction on all residential street segments within OPD 551 upon receiving a written request from the Councilmember for the affected street segment in the OPD.
6. INSTRUCT the LADOT to initiate the necessary procedures to prepare, issue and collect payments for Overnight Parking Permits from the residents of OPD No. 551 in accordance with Section 80.54 of the L.A.M.C., and to issue permits subject to the following permit limits:
 - a. Maximum of 3 Resident Permits per dwelling unit at \$15 each per year
 - b. Maximum of 2 Visitor Permits per dwelling unit at \$10 each per four months
 - c. Maximum of 25 Guest Permits per dwelling unit per day at \$1 each per day

- d. Sales of Guest Permits in excess of 25 per dwelling unit per day require written approval of the Council Office.
7. DIRECT the LADOT to post or remove the authorized OPD No. 551 parking restrictions for any of the street segments within OPD No. 551 in accordance with the criteria set forth in the above recommendations, except for areas where parking is currently prohibited at all times in the interest of traffic flow or safety, upon written instructions from the council office representing the specific street segment requesting the posting or removal of such signs following City Council action establishing the District.

DISCUSSION

This small residential area between St. Andrews Street and Western Avenue on 30th and 31st Streets is an area developed with single-family homes and duplexes built early last century, which lacks adequate off-street parking. Residents depend upon being able to park on the street adjacent to their homes. This has been difficult because of the improper storage of commercial vehicle on the streets, vehicles from auto repair facilities and other non-resident vehicles which has resulted in residents being unable to find overnight parking on the block.

On April 9, 2013, Councilmember Wesson sent a letter requesting the establishment of the blocks posted with restrictive signs. On January 29, 2013, the 30th & 31st Street Committee for Overnight Parking District sent a letter requesting the establishment of this OPD indicated petitions were submitted to the council office demonstrating overwhelming support of 95% of the residents for establishment of this district because of a severe shortage of parking for residents, ongoing criminal activity and safety issues. The council office confirmed receipt of petitions.

In the early morning hours in March 29, 2013, the LADOT conducted a parking study for the street segments within the proposed OPD to determine the extent of the public nuisance parking problem and did not find any vehicles that appeared to be associated with criminal activity; however, there appeared to be a parking supply issue which necessitate residents parking on the street, which will require permits or would force residents to park outside this neighborhood unless permit parking is allowed on these street segments.

Both the Councilmember and LAPD have requested that permits be made available for purchase by residents. Permit quantities authorized for other OPDs are currently limited to the three types of OPD permits as stated under Recommendation No. 7. The cost of each permit is also stated in Recommendation No. 7. LADOT recommends that those permit types and costs be adopted for this OPD as well.

Requiring unarmed LADOT traffic officers to enforce a parking restriction between 2:00 AM and 6:00 AM in order to deter a criminal activity the parking restriction is designed to address (i.e., using a parked vehicle on City streets for living quarters in violation of LAMC Section 85.02) would likely subject the traffic officers to confrontations and assaults. Therefore, LADOT recommends that the Police Department have the primary responsibility for enforcement of the authorized overnight parking restriction in the proposed OPD, with support from LADOT Parking Enforcement, because the reported problem is primarily a criminal activity and not simply illegal parking.

The City Council has the authority under LAMC Section 80.54(b) to "establish by resolution, Overnight Parking Districts with appropriate boundaries and authorize parking restrictions to be in effect on the streets thereof between 2 A.M. and 6 A.M. The resolution ...shall state the maximum number and type

of Overnight Parking Permits that may be issued to any one dwelling. The resolution shall also establish the fee charged for each type of Overnight Parking Permit." The City Council also has the authority by the LAMC Section 80.54.(c).,"to authorize, by resolution, the Department of Transportation to issue permits for an Overnight Parking District if such proposed district is a residential area lacking adequate off-street parking facilities."

BACKGROUND

On April 9, 2013, Councilmember Wesson, sent a letter on behalf of the residents of these two blocks, requesting that LADOT proceed with the approval process and implementation of an Overnight Parking District for the area. LADOT conducted a study and determined that inadequate off-street parking existed on some streets which would necessitate residents being allowed to purchase permits or to displace vehicles from the area which would force them to park some distance from their homes.

The Council District (CD) 10 office acknowledged receipt of residents' petitions requesting the district be established for St. Andrews Place between 30th Street and 31st Street, 30th Street between the alley west of Western Avenue and St. Andrews Place, 31st Street between the alley west of Western Avenue and St. Andrews Place. The level of support indicated in the 30th and 31st Street Committee for Overnight Parking District to be adequate to warrant posted once the District has been established by the City Council upon receipt of a letter requesting the streets be posted.

The LADOT received a letter dated July 9, 2013, from Captain Paul A. Snell, Commanding Officer of the Homer F. Broome, Jr., Southwest Area Community Police Station, asking LADOT's assistance in addressing quality of issues on the streets bounded by the same boundaries (copy attached) and which impact quality of life and are a public safety issue in the area. The impacts stem from traffic related to the nearby businesses, and unrepaired vehicles being left on the residential streets. The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) requested that "No Parking, 2 AM to 6 AM" parking restriction to be installed to address the problems.

The Councilmember and his staff have consulted with LADOT and LAPD regarding the parking problem on the affected blocks and the Councilmember believes that an OPD is an appropriate solution to correct the problems in this area.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

LADOT has conducted an analysis and investigation of the proposed parking district and has concluded that, under the State CEQA guidelines, the changes are subject to a Class I Categorical Exemption under § 15301 of the State CEQA Guidelines because changes in parking restrictions for this district are operational and will not expand the existing use of the streets or change parking demand. Furthermore, displacement of other vehicles is expected to be minimal.

LADOT also determined that the exceptions to the categorical exemption for cumulative impact, significant effect, scenic highway, hazardous waste site or historical resource do not apply to this district. (See 2002 City CEQA Guidelines, Article III, 1.a.3.)

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Overnight Parking Districts with permits for residents and their guests are a special service for which the City is entitled to fully recover all associated costs for the administration, posting, maintaining and

enforcing through the permit fees charged. If vehicles park in violation of the posted signs, they may incur citations and fines to be deposited in the General Fund.

COORDINATION

Councilmember Wesson, CD 10, sent a letter to LADOT requesting the establishment of this OPD. LAPD has also requested the establishment. The LADOT has prepared this report and the draft Resolution establishing OPD 551 for the residents of this area and will post signs upon the written request of the Councilmember.

SJR:DBA:tlm

Attachments

- Resolution
- Councilmember's Letter
- LAPD Letter
- Letter from the 30th & 31st Street Committee for Overnight Parking District
- Map of OPD No. 551

BY _____
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