



Bolinas Resident Permit Parking Plan Committee

Status Report - One Year Later

January 2022

Key Topics

- Background
- Purpose
- Committee Goals
- County Plan
- How Does it Work?
- Who Would Receive a Permit?
- Questions & Next Steps
- Summary



Our Purpose

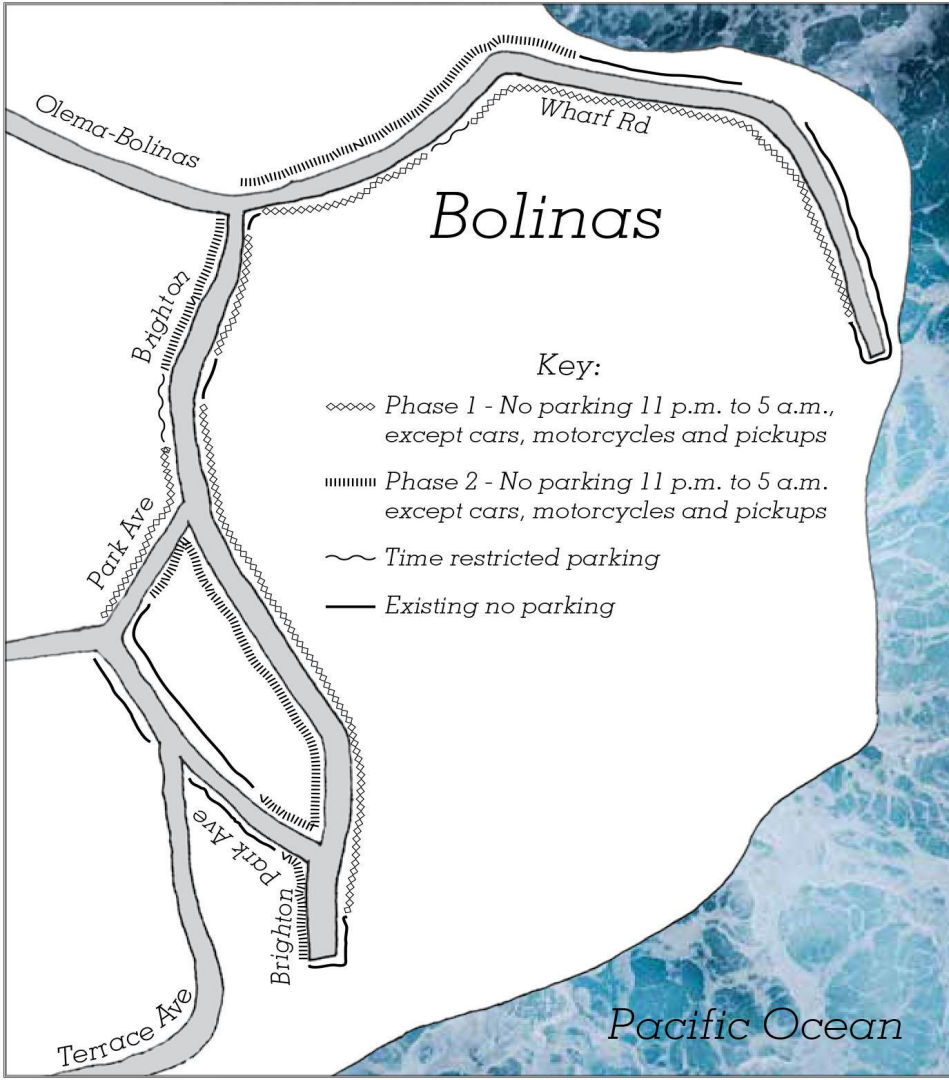
To determine the feasibility of a fair and just parking permit program that ensures ongoing and regular access to parking for Bolinas residents and visitors.

The Original Objective

Limit overnight parking and camping to create turnover, increase access to parking for residents, community members and visitors in areas of Bolinas that are highly impacted by excessive day and overnight parking congestion brought on by tourism, commerce and /or an increase in residency. Reduce impact on environmentally sensitive habitats caused by unlimited camping on town streets.

After review of possible solutions, the County of Marin has proposed a permit parking plan. Will it Work for Bolinas?





Providing Context

CURRENT MEASURE X ORDINANCE STILL IN EFFECT

This ordinance first approved in November 2019 was renewed in November 2021.

*(Note: Marin IJ source for graphic - key should state....**except autos, etc.**)*

Benefit of a Permit Program Parking Management

- Unambiguous and suggested by the County of Marin as an enforceable mechanism.
- Current overnight parking ordinance is difficult to enforce. New ordinance would be an improvement.
- A standard practice in many towns with areas that have a high volume of traffic and a scarcity of parking. The Marin County Office of the Sheriff (MCOS) currently operates two small permit programs in Marin.
- *For residents where the restriction is imposed* – **eliminates the influx of campers from parking in front of their homes** – some in large recreational vehicles.
- *For the town as a whole*, it further manages the use of our streets.

Research Findings

Is it Feasible?





Parking Permit Plan Timeline

2019-2020

- December 2019 BCPUD Resident Permit Parking Plan first committee meeting
- December 2020 possible solutions but not any single plan brought forward in a report to BCPUD.

Report lists *Next Steps* - *confirm if any of the ideas presented are feasible* at the County and Coastal Commission level before bringing ideas forward to the community.



Timeline 2021-2022

Determining Program Feasibility resulted in the County plan now under review

- November 17, 2021 - Parameters to a permit program presented by Supervisor Rodoni along with Marin County Department senior staff including Department of Public Works (DPW).
- November 2021 - January 2022- 6 additional meetings. County meeting # 7 scheduled for 1/26/22
- January 13, 2022 - Community Development Department Director arranges a meeting with California Coastal Commission (CCC) North Central Coast District Manager - outcome is favorable to permit - data needed for support
- January 19, 2022 BCPUD meeting seeking guidance - how to proceed. We see a path forward that could benefit the town and in particular downtown residents.

How Does the Parking Permit Program Work?

County's Plan





County Program Features

As we understand it, the intent is to replace Measure X with these features....

- Area is the same, however not clear to what extent.
- First phase “no parking restrictions” would only apply to the residential section of Brighton Ave. The program starts on a street with the greatest need. This is important as it indicates a small-scale effort.
- No overnight parking **for 3 hours, 2 a.m.-5 a.m.** in key downtown areas.

Permits exempt those who live on streets where this restriction applies.



[Bolinas wanted to stay hidden—then came the internet.](#)

Curbed magazine, October 1, 2019

County Program — Permits

- No vehicle will be able to park within the restricted area unless they display a permit.
- Resident eligibility for permits to be administered and determined by the issuing agency. Car registration to the address may not be required. (This was clarified on 1/12/22).
- Permits to be permanently affixed to vehicles
- Number of permits per household tbd by future DPW assessment of off street and on street parking available in target area.
- A fee is required for a permit(s) to cover the cost of issuance.
- No guest permits. Guests will need to park on the property or elsewhere.
- No county agency, including MCOS, wants to issue permits. BCPUD or Bolinas Fire is allowed.
- Issuing permit guidelines are driven by what MCOS believes they need for enforcement.

Additional Feature of County Plan

No parking, at all times, of vehicles over 22 feet in length. Details are not yet clear.



FOLLOW UP - MORE TO FIND OUT

- What will Department of Public Works assessment to determine area for this ordinance and # of permits allowed per property show.
- Do residents think restricting overnight parking and eliminating campers in front of their home is a welcome benefit.
- Are the parameters set by the County workable for Bolinas.
- For Brighton properties - will all properties want or need a permit with no overnight parking restrictions in place? Is there sufficient off-street parking and/or would parking across the street work for visitors or themselves.
- What is the detail on the vehicle 22' length limit 24/7 proposed by MCOS?
- What elements of Measure X would still apply?
- Who issues the permits?
- How is eligibility determined?

FOLLOW UP continued.....

1. A poll of residents affected by the ordinance will be needed.
2. Data collection on the current situation, working with CDA and DPW - how many campers, how long, where, available parking, etc.
3. BCPUD role - issue permits?
4. What is program cost and resulting fees?

FOLLOW UP

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW)

Follow up with DPW on pedestrian safety issues

A structured mechanism for ongoing communication will help the town to get these issues solved.

Continue with our good working relationship.

The problem shown by the picture fixed by STOP Sign. More pedestrian safety issues pending resolution.



NOTE:

This is a small -scale program.

There are about 37 properties on Brighton that could be affected. Not all may want or need permits if they have sufficient off-street parking and can live with the 3 hour no overnight parking restriction which is no permit = no parking on residential side of the street. The program may not grow much larger over time given its design, available parking in other areas of town and access issues.



Summary

The mission of the committee has been to determine whether a permit parking program would be feasible. As a first step, we have found that from both the County and Coastal Commission perspective it appears feasible. The County has offered a plan that we need to look at carefully. We do know that a restriction on overnight parking coupled with a permit program provides one important tool for Bolinas to address the impact of the increased influx of visitors to the town. In the plan offered by the County, first phase implementation targets the area with the greatest need. Permits would exempt residents of the designated downtown streets from “no parking” restrictions. These restrictions are enforceable as they are clear. They are needed to prevent the streets of Bolinas from becoming a campground. They also open up day and evening access for residents and visitors by reducing the monopolization of town streets by recreational campers.

The County’s proposal of restrictions on overnight parking in front of resident homes is welcome as one step towards managing the situation, if it is workable for those residents. The committee seeks guidance from the BCPUD Board as how to proceed.

Committee Members: Bruce Bowser, Chair; Sherry Hirsch, Secretary; Charles McParland; Al Minvielle; Judith Shaw; Will Bartlett