

BCPUD RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING PLAN COMMITTEE

Report to BCPUD Board Regarding the County of Marin Department of Public Works Implementation Plan for Downtown Parking Ordinances

02.28.24

We are pleased to report that staff from Community Development informed us on February 15 that the ordinances cleared the Coastal Commission. We want to express our appreciation for their time getting the project through this difficult hurdle and their responsiveness to our questions during the process. The next steps are in the hands of the Department of Public Works (DPW), the entity that submitted the proposal. Per DPW staff, going forward, they are working on MOU'S with administrative entities, then the proposed ordinances have to go to the Board of Supervisors for review and approval and finally DPW will work on the process to install updated signage. Our committee has requested review of the proposed ordinances and to discuss the wording and location of the signage.

Regarding the content of the proposed ordinances: A year ago, Supervisor Rodoni sent us what he said was being considered for the two overnight parking ordinances in some of the areas not covered by the permit parking restriction. We believe that those discussed below are what are offered but we need confirmation, which we have asked for. As we understand the ordinances are:

- Defining *automobiles* by a length limit of 22 feet. There is no definition of *automobiles* in the California Vehicle Code (which is **the** source for definitions in County vehicle ordinances) so the County has had to provide one in order to enforce: There are two ordinances with this change. What we saw in February 2023 were similar in wording to the measure X restriction that is currently downtown, except that the new ordinances added a length limit of 22 feet and detailed how trailers attached to vehicles would be measured as part of the restricted length. Although detail on trailers is shown in the ordinances, there still are questions as to how they apply to unattached trailers which have been a significant problem on Brighton Avenue.
- Hours: One of the length limit ordinances shows the current hours of restriction: 11 p.m. - 5 a.m., applying only on the non-residential side of Brighton Avenue. A second ordinance using similar wording restricts parking of vehicles greater than 22 feet at all times on Wharf Road from the Museum to the Beach entrance.
- Regarding the permit ordinance: We have not seen specifics as to what the permit ordinance says. We do know the hours to be 2 a.m. to 5 a.m. This ordinance would be in effect on the residential side of Brighton Ave. On Wharf Road it would be in effect in a portion (tbd) of the area where the limit of 22 feet on parking would be in effect (from Museum to the Beach).

Implementation of the permit program requires further discussions with DPW and residents who will be participating in this program. The details have not been reviewed by Wharf Road

residents where implementation is more nuanced given the existing red zones and limited off-street parking. There will no longer be Measure X overnight restrictions on Wharf Road (in the commercial area) and Measure X signage will no longer be in place in the downtown area. The Market green zone remains as it will on Brighton Avenue.

Signage on the length limit ordinances is where we seek input. On Brighton Ave we have asked that the signs remain as they are and if necessary the ordinance number be added. And/or special signage could be posted at the county park explaining the ordinance. If the ordinances are the same as what we saw last year, they are just defining the word "automobile" by length to make it enforceable. The only other significant difference is that on Wharf Road the length restriction is at all times, otherwise the ordinance reads the same as Brighton. One of the main benefits of the existing Measure X signage is that the language has acted as a deterrent. Our request to leave it as it is. The County has numerous parking signs that don't detail the entire ordinance or even the ordinance number.

At this writing we have no timeline, and no final version of the ordinance to review.

We understand that some discussion has occurred between BCPUD and the Sheriff's office regarding the issuing of permits and we have been assured that our committee will be included to review. Our committee has had a good relationship with DPW staff, however given their full plate, we may require BCPUD's help to access information and your acknowledgement of our need for inclusion in the implementation process.

We look forward to a smooth implementation process.

Submitted by Sherry Hirsch, Committee Secretary