



WESTMINSTER

Staff Report

TO: The Mayor and Members of the City Council

DATE: August 1, 2012

SUBJECT: Study Session Agenda for August 6, 2012

PREPARED BY: J. Brent McFall, City Manager

Please Note: Study Sessions and Post City Council meetings are open to the public, and individuals are welcome to attend and observe. However, these meetings are not intended to be interactive with the audience, as this time is set aside for City Council to receive information, make inquiries, and provide Staff with policy direction.

Looking ahead to next Monday night's Study Session, the following schedule has been prepared:

**Westminster Public Safety Recognition Foundation Art Un-veiling
Ceremony at the Public Safety Center**

5:30 P.M.

A light dinner will be served in the Council Family Room

6:00 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

1. Report from Mayor (5 minutes)
2. Reports from City Councillors (10 minutes)

PRESENTATIONS

1. Amendment to the WMC to Prohibit Parking on Public Rights-of-Way between
The Curb and the Sidewalk
2. Strategic Plan Development

6:30 P.M.

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

None at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None at this time.

Additional items may come up between now and Monday night. City Council will be apprised of any changes to the Study Session meeting schedule.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall
City Manager



WESTMINSTER

Staff Report

City Council Study Session Meeting
August 6, 2012



SUBJECT: Proposed Councillors Bill re: Amendment to the Westminster Municipal Code, Section 10-1-12 (B) to Prohibit Parking on Public Rights-of-Way between the Curb and the Sidewalk

PREPARED BY: Mike Normandin, Transportation Engineer

Recommended City Council Action

Concur with staff's proposal to draft an ordinance to amend Section 10-1-12 (B) of the WMC to prohibit parking on that portion of the public right-of-way located between the curb and the sidewalk. This ordinance would be brought to Council for official action at an upcoming City Council meeting.

Summary Statement

Some street sections located within residential neighborhoods in the City contain a relatively narrow buffer between the sidewalk and the curb. The intended uses of this buffer are to supply an area for the potential placement of landscaping and to provide a separation between the sidewalk and the traveled roadway for the enhanced safety of pedestrians. The current City Code does not have provisions for the enforcement of parking restrictions within these buffered areas, and staff have noticed that some residents inexplicably park their vehicles behind the curb rather than within the paved portion of the street adjacent to the curb. Therefore, Staff is proposing a revision to the Municipal Code to prohibit parking within these narrow buffers.

Expenditure Required: \$0

Source of Funds: n/a

Policy Issue

Should the City prohibit parking within that portion of the public right-of-way located between the street curb and the sidewalk?

Alternative

The City Council could elect to continue the practice of allowing residents to park their vehicles behind the curb of the street.

Background Information

There are certain locations in the City where the buffer between the curb and the sidewalk is not landscaped, so the owners of adjacent lots park within them even though parking is allowed on the street. It is assumed that residents park in this manner simply to reduce the possibility of having their vehicles “sideswiped” by street traffic. Photos are attached that show a vehicle parked between the curb and sidewalk. Parking within these buffered areas causes unnecessary wear to the curb and, potentially, the sidewalk. Furthermore, pedestrian safety is compromised to some extent by the reduced visibility that results from vehicles parked immediately adjacent to the sidewalk. Finally, it is staff’s opinion that vehicles parked behind the curb are an unnecessary eyesore that does not project a desirable image of the City.

If City Council concurs with the proposed changes to the Code, staff will prepare an ordinance amending Section 10-1-12 (B) of the WMC to prohibit parking on public rights-of-way between the curb and sidewalk. This ordinance would be placed on the agenda of an upcoming meeting for official Council action. Appropriate City staff will attend the August 6 Study Session to answer questions from the City Council.

This proposed revision to the Municipal Code supports the City Council Strategic Plan Goals including: Vibrant Neighborhoods in One Livable Community, and Beautiful and Environmentally Sensitive City.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Brent McFall
City Manager

Attachments: Two photos



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