

# Residential Parking Management Program

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## BACKGROUND

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In 1985, the City of Bellevue developed a Residential Parking Management Program. It was created to address neighborhood concerns with regard to the increased use of on-street parking by non-resident vehicles from adjacent businesses and downtown office buildings, or other major generators of vehicular parking, such as high schools and shopping malls.

There are two types of parking restrictions implemented through the Residential Parking Management Program. They are:

- General Parking Restrictions
- Residential Parking Zones (RPZ)

## NEIGHBORHOOD ELIGIBILITY FOR THE RESIDENTIAL PARKING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

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A neighborhood may be reviewed for eligibility in the program if spillover parking is occurring outside of downtown and Bel-Red and is occurring adjacent to land that is zoned for single family or multi-family use.

**More information:** <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/parking-management.htm>

**Residential Parking Management Program**  
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## THE BEST PARKING SOLUTION FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD

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### *General Parking Restrictions*

Depending on the nature of the spillover parking problem, a general parking restriction (such as “No Parking Anytime”) may be the best option. With the “No Parking Anytime,” time-based (e.g. “No Parking 8 AM to 5 PM”), and other general restrictions, no decals or guest permits are issued. All vehicles, including those belonging to residents and their guests, are not allowed to park on the street during the time indicated on the signs. There are no exceptions.

If residents need on-street parking during the day, the RPZ program may provide the best parking restrictions needed.

### *Residential Parking Zones (RPZ)*

A Residential Parking Zone (RPZ) is an area established by a City ordinance to restrict non-residential parking on neighborhood streets. Essentially, it provides on-street parking, generally during business hours, for the residents who live on the street.

Residents whose property abuts the parking restrictions or who rely on access to their property through RPZ restricted streets are eligible to park on the street once they apply for and receive RPZ permits. Eligible households may receive up to 4 decals for their personal vehicles and 2 guest permits. Residents in zones with hourly RPZ restrictions that extend beyond 5 p.m. or occur on weekends may receive up to 4 guest permits per household. A household that does not meet the eligibility criteria may be eligible to receive temporary permits for short-term special events if all the convenient on-street parking available is under RPZ restrictions. There is no fee for any permits at this time.

All vehicles parked on the street during the hours of enforcement must display a valid permit to avoid being cited. RPZ permits do not exempt a vehicle from the city’s general parking codes.



# Steps for Implementing Residential Parking Zones (RPZ) or General Parking Restrictions

1. Residents and/or community associations submit a Request for Parking Review form describing the problem, probable cause, and signatures of neighbors who agree there is a problem.
2. Staff assign a case number and let residents know of next steps.
3. Staff make an initial determination regarding overall safety considerations and the parking concern. If on-street parking is considered to be a safety issue, "No Parking Anytime" restrictions will be implemented.
4. If on-street parking is not considered a safety issue, staff will investigate the source of the parking spillover and explore management strategies such as shared parking agreements with adjacent businesses.
5. After exploring other strategies, transportation staff will review the location to determine if it qualifies for the RPZ program or another Residential Parking Management tool based on the eligibility guidelines.
6. If the area qualifies, staff make an initial determination on what type of parking restriction or other treatment is appropriate for the neighborhood. These include residential parking zones (RPZs), "No Parking Any Time" signs, limited no parking restrictions (e.g. 2-hour parking), or other landscaping or channelization improvements.
7. Staff send residents the results of the field review, analysis, and recommendation to solicit feedback.
8. Once feedback is received, staff prepare a ballot to measure support from the wider neighborhood. RPZs and limited no parking restrictions require 65% of all households to approve the restrictions. If "No Parking Any Time" restrictions (or other restrictions that fully restrict parking for all users for any amount of time) are proposed, 100% of all households must approve.
9. If 65% support is not received, an area must wait 12 months before applying again.
10. If 65% support is received, staff will take the proposal to the City Council for their review and approval. If approved, an ordinance is recorded, signs are installed and residents are issued permits. Signs are placed within the City's right-of-way, which occur along the frontage of homes. The number of signs installed is determined by staff to ensure the restrictions are enforceable. The ordinance takes approximately 30 days to become effective. Enforcement is provided by the Bellevue Police Department and is on a complaint basis or at an officer's discretion.
11. Once parking restrictions are implemented, it would take 65% of households to request its removal, via petition. A ballot provided by the City will confirm the amount of support for RPZ removal.

Updated: August 2016

BELLEVUE  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
TRAFFIC  
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City of Bellevue Transportation Department

## Residential Parking Management Program

RESIDENTIAL PARKING ZONES AND GENERAL PARKING RESTRICTIONS

