RESOLUTION NO. 2017-73

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL APPROVING GUIDELINES FOR RESTRICTING PARKING NEAR INTERSECTIONS

WHEREAS, creating no parking areas close to intersections can help to better allow motorists to see pedestrians preparing to cross the street, thereby helping to improve pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, the City’s Active Transportation Plan, adopted by the City Council in 2012, includes the task of creating parking restricted areas to improve pedestrian safety; and

WHEREAS, the City’s Traffic & Safety Commission has reviewed the proposed guidelines for restricting parking near intersections and has recommended Council approval of the guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the Guidelines for Restricting Parking Near Intersections are intended to outline the proposed requirements, prioritization criteria, and public engagement that the City will administer with regard to implementing parking restrictions near intersections.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council hereby approves the Guidelines for Restricting Parking Near Intersections as attached hereto as Exhibit A to this Resolution.

PEGGY MCQUAID, MAYOR

Exhibit A: Guidelines for Restricting Parking Near Intersections
GUIDELINES FOR RESTRICTING STREET PARKING NEAR INTERSECTIONS
DRAFT FOR CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL - SEPTEMBER 2017

Background

One of the principles of roadway design is that on-street parking should be positioned far enough away from intersections to allow for good visibility of pedestrians preparing to cross the street. In addition, the Active Transportation Plan established safety as one of the six goals of the plan. One of the actions associated with that goal is to restrict parking within 30 feet of intersections to ensure visibility. The purpose of these Guidelines is to provide a structure to implementation of the sidewalk safety policy.

Proposed Requirements

1. On the approach side of a standard perpendicular intersection between local and/or collector streets or paths, on-street parking shall be prohibited within a preferred distance of 15 to 20 feet from the marked or unmarked intersection crosswalk. Red zones may be extended beyond 20 feet to the nearest curb cut in situations where remaining curb length is insufficient for parking a vehicle.

2. On the departure side of a standard perpendicular intersection between local and/or collector streets, on-street parking shall be prohibited within a minimum of three feet from a curb ramp and up a preferred distance to 10 feet from the edge of the marked or unmarked intersection crosswalk.

3. For intersections with unique angle of approach or topography, or intersections with pathways, the City Engineer shall prepare a technical analysis to determine where parking restrictions would significantly improve pedestrian visibility.

Prioritization Criteria

The Traffic and Safety Commission may create a list of priority streets for implementation of parking restrictions at intersections. Prioritization should be based on:

- Pedestrian crossing is part of a Pedestrian Priority Network as established in the Active Transportation Plan;
- Pedestrian crossing is close to a school and/or is on a recognized safe route to school route;
- Pedestrian crossing is close to a transit stop;
- Pedestrian crossing is close to a major retail, civic, or community destination; and
- Citizen reports of hazardous conditions, unique intersection characteristics, and/or history of vehicle vs. pedestrian collisions.

Public Engagement

The Albany Municipal Code Section 9-10 authorizes the City Engineer to place curb markings and restrict parking at hazardous areas. As a general practice, proposed parking restrictions should be reviewed by the Traffic and Safety Commission prior to final determination and implementation by the City Engineer. Public notice of the Traffic and Safety Commission meeting shall be mailed at least ten calendar days before the meeting to owners and occupants of all properties with 150 feet walking distance of proposed parking restricted area.
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PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY,

The 5th day of September, 2017, by the following votes:

AYES: Council Members Barnes, Maass, Nason, Pilch and Mayor McQuaid

NOES: none

ABSENT: none

ABSTAINED: none

RECUSED: none

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF ALBANY, this

6th day of September, 2017.

Eileen Harrington
DEPUTY CITY CLERK