



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 6, 2017

DEPARTMENT: PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTATION DIVISION

FROM: JAMES SERRANO, TRANSPORTATION MANAGER

TITLE: SIGNING FOR STREET SWEEPING PARKING RESTRICTIONS

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a Resolution approving alternative street signing for parking restrictions that support the City's Street Sweeping Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the City Council approve a Resolution for alternative signing for the Street Sweeping Program in order to provide an additional tool to support street sweeping in residential areas.

DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Department is preparing to make recommendations for parking requirements to support street sweeping operations. In order to implement a "Clean Streets" program, Public Works aims to improve street sweeping operations particularly in streets where an overabundance of parked vehicles prevents the effective cleaning of residential streets. Public works will return to Council with a proposal to split street sweeping schedules on certain streets. This means that parking on one side of a street will be restricted to allow for sweeping, then the sweeper will return the following day to sweep the other side which will then be restricted from parking.

For now, Public Works is requesting approval of alternative signing that will support the proposed street sweeping changes. Current requirements (Section 20-81 of the Salinas City Code) specify the spacing for parking restriction signs to be not greater than 250 feet. This is appropriate for most areas where parking restrictions need to be reinforced since one of the challenges to parking enforcement programs are objections of those in violation because a sign restricting parking is not evident or in plain view.

However, signing of the required frequency in residential areas may not be supported by residents because of the enormous amount of signs that would be required in the neighborhood to comply with City requirements. To reduce occasions of sign blight in the City, staff would like to develop an alternative tool that may be used in residential areas. Where clear entrances to a residential street, neighborhood or area can be defined, staff proposes the installation of parking restriction signs at these entrances such that all who enter are provided notice that special parking restrictions

may be in effect on certain days and times in the area. This may not be possible in all applications and in those cases; the existing requirement of posting signs in higher frequency may still be used to improve effectiveness.

Section 20-56 of the Salinas City Code provides general authority to the engineering staff or the Public Works Director for placement of signs that restrict parking. Staff will therefore be requesting that Council approve a Resolution for alternative signing for street sweeping affirming the delegated authority and extending said authority to include alternative signing in residential areas in support of street sweeping operations and to reduce sign blight.

Engineering staff will also be prescribing the specification for signs, including but not limited to; the size of signs, size of text and message associated with signs developed for the program since there will need to be customized messages for each location.

Traffic and Transportation Commission

The Traffic and Transportation Commission recommends the alternative signing option to provide an additional tool to support street sweeping operations and to reduce potential sign blight in residential areas.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Staff has determined that the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Section 15301, Class 1). The project consists of the operation, repair, or minor alteration of public streets involving no expansion of use. There would be no significant effect on the environment.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

Effective implementation of street sweeping operations supports Council goals of Quality of Life.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

Cost of producing and installing signs for the street sweeping program are potentially reduced if alternative street signing at entrances are found effective in residential areas.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution
Sections 20-56 & Sections 20-86 of the City Code

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (N.C.S.)

A RESOLUTION OF THE SALINAS CITY COUNCIL APPROVING ALTERNATIVE STREET SIGNING FOR PARKING RESTRICTIONS THAT SUPPORT THE CITY'S STREET SWEEPING PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City desires to have clean streets and meet mandates to improve water quality of receiving waters of the State; and

WHEREAS, effective street sweeping operations are hampered by over-parking in certain City streets; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department is planning operational improvements in street cleaning which may require customized parking restrictions in certain streets; and

WHEREAS, current restrictions specify spacing of parking restriction signing to not less than 250, feet, such restrictions potentially introducing sign blight in residential areas; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department finds that alternative signing is an added tool for implementing its street sweeping program and will help reduce parking sign proliferation in residential areas;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALINAS that the City Council affirms delegation of authority as specified in Section 20-56 of the City Code to the Public Works Director and engineering staff and extending the authority for consideration and placement of alternative signing, such as entrance signing, in residential areas in support of street sweeping operations.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 6th day of June 2017, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

APPROVED:

Joe Gunter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia M. Barajas, City Clerk