



## **CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT**

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**DATE:** NOVEMBER 6, 2018

**DEPARTMENT:** PUBLIC WORKS

**FROM:** DAVID JACOBS, DIRECTOR

**BY:** VICTOR GUTIERREZ, ASSISTANT ENGINEER  
KATHERINE BONILLA, ENGINEERING AIDE I

**TITLE:** REQUEST FOR BLUE (ACCESSIBLE) ZONE

### RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion for the City Council to deny the request for one (1) blue (accessible) designation at 102 Pennsylvania Drive.

### RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council deny the request to install one (1) blue (accessible) zone designation at 102 Pennsylvania Drive.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Staff received a request from Hilary Cruz, resident of 102 Pennsylvania Drive, to install one (1) blue (accessible) zone designation. Generally, staff recommends the approval of blue accessible zone requests if the requests meet the criteria outlined in the City of Salinas Disabled (Blue) Parking Zone Policy on Residential Streets; this request does not meet those requirements.

### BACKGROUND:

Staff received a request from Hilary Cruz, resident of 102 Pennsylvania Drive, to install one (1) blue (accessible) zone designation on Pennsylvania Drive. Ms. Cruz states Mr. Cruz, who is a quadriplegic, would utilize the disabled parking space at this location and that residents from the nearby Harden Ranch Community Apartments park their vehicles along the frontage of their home for long periods, making parking difficult. The requestor is additionally requesting for the administration, installation and the annual maintenance fee to be waived.

This dwelling had one (1) blue (accessible) zone designation from 2001 to 2008. In 2008, the special curb marking was removed/deleted because the requestor did not submit the required documentation to retain this special curb marking.

Generally, staff does not recommend requests for disabled parking zones on residential streets. In residential areas, the best path of travel from vehicle to home for people with disabilities is generally the shortest distance to the home, typically the pathway from the garage parking space(s). Parking in the driveway is another option that provides a shorter travel distance from car to home in comparison to street parking. A disabled parking zone on the street increases exposure of the disabled person to street traffic, especially if vehicle access is via the driver's side of the car.

#### Disabled (Blue) Parking Zone Policy on Residential Streets Policy

Effective August 15, 2006, requests for on-street disabled parking (blue) zones shall be subject to the following criteria:

1. Off-street parking facilities for the residential property do not exist. The property does not have a garage, driveway, or other on-site parking space that can be provided for the disabled member of the household; or
2. On-street parking is unavailable. This criterion requires that the site be located adjacent to a school, apartment, and/or other businesses that consume on-street residential parking supply; and
3. The path of travel from the proposed on-street parking stall to the home meets ADA/Title 24 path of travel requirements.

The following criteria are required in all cases:

4. Proof that the disabled resident has a permanent disabled placard on file; and
5. Signed statement acknowledging applicant understands that the on-street disabled parking requested can be used by other residents in the community that have a disabled placard.

Staff has reviewed Ms. Cruz's request based on the above criteria and does not recommend the approval of one (1) blue (accessible) zone at 102 Pennsylvania Drive. The applicant of 102 Pennsylvania Drive has better and safer options to accommodate members of the household with disabilities. The garage and paved driveway are better alternatives, provide a more direct access to the home, and are safer because the route from car to house is not in the street.

#### TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The request for was presented to install one (1) blue (accessible) zone designation at 102 Pennsylvania Drive was presented the Traffic and Transportation Commission at its September 2018 meeting. The Commission voted 5-0 to recommend to the City Council to deny the request to install one (1) blue accessible zone designation at 102 Pennsylvania Drive.

### CEQA CONSIDERATION:

The City of Salinas has determined that implementing the blue zone parking restriction is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines (Section 15301, Class 1). If the requested parking restriction were recommended, 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:

Implementing the City's disabled blue zone policy helps prioritize safe and convenient parking accommodations for disabled residents and therefore supports the Council goal of a "Well planned city and excellent infrastructure."

### DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION:

No departmental coordination occurred since the recommendation is for a denial of the residential disabled (blue) zone. If recommended, staff would coordinate with the Police Department, Public Works Maintenance, and parking enforcement.

### FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The estimated cost to install one (1) blue (accessible) zone is \$793. The applicant of an approved blue zone is responsible for an annual maintenance fee of \$276 and curb markings are refreshed yearly.

### ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1- Location Map

Attachment 2- Location Photos

Attachment 3- Flowchart for Salinas Accessible (Blue) Parking Zones

Attachment 4- Special Curb Marking Application

Attachment 5- Resolution No. 19056- Disabled (Blue) Parking Zones on Residential Streets Policy

Attachment 6-Resolution