

Rockville Traffic and Transportation Commission

Principles and Guidelines for Residential Permit Parking Area Approval

The Traffic and Transportation Commission considers and acts on petitions for designating new permit parking areas within the City of Rockville when such petitions encompass more than 15 households (including the addition to, or deletion from, an existing permit parking area). The Commission considers all factors set forth in Section 23-44 of the Rockville City Code in determining whether or not to grant requests for designating new permit parking areas. In furtherance thereof, the Commission applies the following principles in its consideration of requests for permit parking designation.

1. The purpose of a permit parking area must be in accordance with the City Code §23-41, which states, “frequently, the use of streets within residential areas for parking of vehicles by persons using adjacent commercial, industrial, education, and transit areas or facilities, results in hazardous traffic conditions, the overburdening of existing streets, roads and other facilities, air and noise pollution, and the inability of residents of certain areas to obtain adequate parking adjacent or close by their places of residence and to secure ease of access to their places of residence.
2. The permit parking hours and conditions must be appropriate to the area and enforceable, as determined by Rockville Police. While alternative time blocks may be approved on a case-by-case basis, most permit parking areas shall be in effect during one of the following standard times: school days from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. or week days 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
3. The establishment of a permit parking area should not be the first step taken to address a residential parking problem. Petitioners should demonstrate prior attempts to solve parking issues before submitting a petition for permit parking.
4. A petition for permit parking should be supported by reasons other than petitioners’ desire to provide convenient on-street parking in addition to adequate and convenient off-street parking already available.
5. In general, a new permit parking area will not be designated in neighborhoods where residents in that neighborhood cause the problem. Since permit parking only restricts non-residents, it is not a solution for cases in which vehicles owned by residents cause the problem.
6. Permit parking areas will not be approved where the designation is likely to move the parking problem to other areas. In such cases, those residents requesting permit parking designation should propose comprehensive solutions and coordination with adjacent areas. Staff will provide the petitioner details of adjacent blocks that may be affected by the proposed permit parking area.
7. Permit parking areas will be approved only on demonstration of evidence that a parking problem currently exists.
8. Generally, permit parking areas will not be approved to address temporary burdens such as nearby construction sites. Petitions for temporary designation as a permit parking area will not be approved for burdens expected to last less than eighteen months.
9. In General, the Commission will not approve petitions for partial-block permit parking areas without good cause.

Approved by the Traffic and Transportation Commission on July 28, 2009