



Memorandum

To: Mayor and City Council

Date: May 6, 2008

From: Suja Lowenthal, Second District 
Gary DeLong, Third District 

Subject: Driveway Parking Ordinance

REQUESTED ACTION:

Respectfully request the City Manager work with the City Attorney to modify the Municipal Code, streamlining the permit process to allow residents to park in front of their driveways and return to the City Council with the modified ordinance and a fee resolution that would establish the permit cost within 60 days.

Request the City Manager seek community input in developing a streamlined process.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Throughout Long Beach we have communities with severe parking shortages, most especially in the *Parking Impacted Area*. In these areas, it is imperative that we consider creative approaches to increase on-street parking. One approach, as requested by some residents in Alamitos Beach and the Peninsula, would be to allow residents to park in front of their driveways. While this sounds simple, the process and procedures currently in the Municipal Code to allow this are lengthy and cumbersome.

Currently, under Section 10.22.025 of the Municipal Code, in order for a resident to park in front of their driveway, one must circulate a petition and gain approval of 66% of all owners fronting the streets in the immediate area. The City must then conduct a study to determine whether there is a parking problem, and based on the study, the Council must adopt a resolution establishing the parking area. After the resolution is adopted, the property owner must apply for a permit from Financial Management. The application is then referred to the Director of Planning and Building to verify that the applicant is the property owner, and finally, a permit can be issued to park in front of the driveway. As a result of this process, not a single resident has applied for a permit.

We are proposing to amend the Municipal Code to eliminate the petition and Council resolution process, and establish a simple permit process where the Department of Public Works reviews the request and, if appropriate, issues a permit allowing the resident to park in front of their driveway.

Given the severe parking shortages in communities throughout our *Parking Impacted Area* such as Alamitos Beach, Bluff Heights, Rose Park and the Peninsula, we are hoping to simplify this tedious process and create more parking opportunities for our residents.