

Informational Memo



Town Council Item

Date: September 8, 2025

Subject: Residential Parking in the Town of Bladensburg (Information Memo)

Summary: The Town has previously examined residential parking challenges through a series of meetings, committee work, and community engagement from 2014 to 2017. During that time, a Parking Committee, comprised of residents, submitted a 2015 report identifying key concerns and proposing strategies to improve parking conditions.

Bladensburg's narrow streets and limited parking capacity create persistent challenges. The Town's original street design did not anticipate the modern trend of multiple vehicles per household. In addition, residential expansion over time and a shift from traditional single-family housing to higher-density uses have increased demand for on-street parking. These issues impact both single-family and multifamily neighborhoods.

A parking survey was previously conducted, with results presented to the Town Council in 2017. The topic resurfaced at the July Town Meeting when residents raised concerns directly to Council members. Staff is now seeking direction from the Council on whether to revisit and expand upon past efforts.

Previous Items Reviewed by the Parking Committee:

1. Parking Options/Cost Analysis

- Restricted-time parking permits
- 24-hour parking permit restrictions
- Limiting on-street parking for apartment complex residents
- Phased-in permit program to reduce apartment overflow parking

2. ADA Parking Requirements

- Previous Studies mentioned this as a possible item; staff could re-address ADA in terms of parking within the Town and access to those with disabilities.

3. On-Street Parking Capacity Study

- Survey of streets to determine available parking spaces
- Potential outsourcing for accuracy

4. Town-Wide Parking Permit Program

- This could be examined as a Pilot Project, and other local communities have registered parking permits within Prince George's County.

5. External Enforcement Option

- Engagement of Prince George's County Parking Authority for enforcement

Previously Identified Parking Concerns:

- Lack of proper signage for parking regulations
- 2014 revised parking regulations not posted publicly
- Overflow parking from apartment complexes into nearby residential streets
- Overnight parking of commercial vehicles in residential areas
- Traffic delays during school drop-offs in Ward II due to insufficient parking

Committee Recommendations from Prior Review:

- Contract the re-posting of parking signage to support Public Works
- Prohibit overnight parking of commercial vehicles in residential areas
- Revise parking regulations for clarity, with emphasis on overnight parking provisions

Parking Permit Program Concepts:

- Town-wide mandatory permit program
- Zoned permit program based on resident petitions
- Initial focus on residential areas north of Annapolis Road and areas near new developments

Committee Composition Considerations:

- Previous committee members are all from Ward I
- Recommendation to add two members from Ward II for broader representation

Potential Next Steps for Council Consideration:

The Council could consider all, one, or a combination of these issues for staff to research and come back to Council with additional information.

1. Research and present updated parking options and best practices from comparable jurisdictions

2. Conduct a new resident parking survey
3. Review ADA parking requirements specific to Town conditions
4. Conduct a parking space inventory and assess underutilized parking lots
5. Develop a draft parking permit program (town-wide, neighborhood-specific, or pilot)
6. Explore an enforcement partnership with the Prince George's County Parking Authority
7. Do not take action at this time

Both Chief Collington and the Town Administrator will be available to address any questions from the Council.