



CITY OF CLEARLAKE

City Council

STAFF REPORT

SUBJECT: Re-introduction for first reading Ordinance No. 263-2022 Amending Chapter 8, Section 8-6 of the Clearlake Municipal Code Relating to Traffic and Parking Regulations

MEETING DATE: July 7, 2022

SUBMITTED BY: Andrew White, Police Chief, and Ryan Jones, City Attorney

PURPOSE OF REPORT: ☐ Information only ☒ Discussion ☒ Action Item

WHAT IS BEING ASKED OF THE CITY COUNCIL/BOARD:

City Council is being asked to consider re-introducing and holding another first reading of an ordinance amending the Traffic and Parking Regulations section of the Clearlake Municipal Code.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

At the June 16, 2022, City Council meeting, the Council voted to hold the first reading of an amendment to the traffic and parking regulations contained in Section 8-6 of the Clearlake Municipal Code. Subsequent to that meeting, City staff determined that additional modifications to Section 8-6 were necessary to clarify the ordinance, particularly related to the prohibition of parking and storing of vehicles on unimproved property.

The Police Department is responsible for enforcing parking regulations in the city. Internally, the primary responsibility for this enforcement is shared between the Patrol and Code Enforcement bureaus. The regulations enforced are primarily contained in the California Vehicle Code and in the Uniform Traffic/Parking Regulations section of the Clearlake Municipal Code.

Staff has conducted a review of the Uniform Traffic/Parking Regulations section and have prepared the attached ordinance that is recommended for adoption by the City Council. The ordinance has been prepared with the consideration of pedestrian and vehicular safety, reducing blight in the community and ensuring uniformity, to the extent practicable, with other municipal jurisdictions.

The following is a summary of the proposed changes:

1. Parking in Excess of 72 Hours: Requires that when a vehicle is tagged for violating this section, it must be moved at least 500 feet away from the location it was tagged. It can return to the original location 72 hours after it was moved. This prevents a violator from circumventing the intent of the regulation by moving a vehicle a short distance away each time it is tagged. Adds a requirement that prior to towing a vehicle, a notice must be placed on the vehicle notifying the owner of a potential violation of the section.

2. Parking Vehicle on Unimproved Property: Expressly prohibits the parking or storing of vehicles on unimproved parcels. This provides consistency with the intent of the Zoning Code and addresses blight caused by the use of vacant parcels for parking as opposed to their intended use. The updated proposed ordinance specifically annotates exceptions to this prohibition, to include the vehicle being actively used in the maintenance or repair of the parcel for up to 72 hours, if the lot's primary use is that of a legally permitted

parking lot, and where a lawful primary use of the property has been established pursuant to the Zoning Code and the parking or storing of the vehicle is expressly permitted by the Zoning Code.

3. No Parking Areas: Prohibits parking in areas where no-parking signs have been posted, where the city engineer has determined parking or stopping of a vehicle would constitute a hazard or where a street has been closed to traffic. Additionally prohibits parking on streets that have been closed for cleaning, repair or construction, or the movement of oversized vehicles. Provides for storage and removal of the vehicles pursuant to the Vehicle Code.

4. Vehicle Repairs: Prohibits vehicle repair, dismantling, or similar activities being done on streets, including private streets open to the public and in parking lots. Provides an exception for emergency repairs necessary to move a vehicle to a more proper place. This provision is common throughout cities in California. Prohibits leaving a car on blocks, jack stands, or similar equipment on streets and parking lots. This condition poses a safety hazard and contributes to blight.

5. Removal of Vehicles: Implements the authority granted in the California Vehicle Code for the removal and storage of vehicles parked in violation of City ordinances, or City Council resolution, when signs are posted giving notice of the removal.

Environmental Considerations: Adoption of this ordinance is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

OPTIONS:

1. **Re-introduce the ordinance and hold the first reading, and set for a second reading and adoption at a subsequent Council meeting**
2. **Give direction to staff**

FISCAL IMPACT:

☒ None ☐ Budgeted Item? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Budget Adjustment Needed? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, amount of appropriation increase: \$

Affected fund(s): ☐ General Fund ☐ Measure P Fund ☐ Measure V Fund ☐ Other:

Comments:

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT:

- ☒ Goal #1: Make Clearlake a Visibly Cleaner City
- ☒ Goal #2: Make Clearlake a Statistically Safer City
- ☐ Goal #3: Improve the Quality of Life in Clearlake with Improved Public Facilities
- ☒ Goal #4: Improve the Image of Clearlake
- ☐ Goal #5: Ensure Fiscal Sustainability of City
- ☒ Goal #6: Update Policies and Procedures to Current Government Standards
- ☐ Goal #7: Support Economic Development

SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

Re-introduction and first reading of Ordinance No. 263-2022: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 8, SECTION 8-6 OF THE CLEARLAKE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO TRAFFIC AND PARKING REGULATIONS, read by title only and set second reading and adoption for the July 21, 2022 meeting.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Ordinance No. 263-2022