

**ORDINANCE
AMENDMENT
OA – 2026 - 05**

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 38 – TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, SECTION 38-4 – PARKING PROHIBITED, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF DALLAS, GEORGIA; TO REPEAL AND REPLACE SECTION 38-4 IN ITS ENTIRETY; TO CLARIFY PARKING PROHIBITIONS NEAR INTERSECTIONS, FIRE HYDRANTS, FIRE APPURTENANCES, FIRE LANES, EMERGENCY ACCESS AREAS, MAIL RECEPTACLES, FIRE STATIONS, AND RESIDENTIAL STREETS; TO PRESERVE EXISTING STREET-SPECIFIC PARKING PROHIBITIONS; TO AUTHORIZE ANGLE PARKING IN SPECIFIED MARKED LOCATIONS; TO AUTHORIZE A PROGRESSIVE PARKING PENALTY SCHEDULE; TO PROVIDE FOR MANDATORY COURT APPEARANCE FOR REPEAT PARKING OFFENDERS; TO AUTHORIZE REMOVAL, IMPOUNDMENT, AND IMMOBILIZATION OF VEHICLES UNDER SPECIFIED CONDITIONS; TO PROVIDE FOR CODIFICATION, SEVERABILITY, REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES, AN EFFECTIVE DATE, AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

- WHEREAS,** the Charter of the City of Dallas, Georgia authorizes the Mayor and Council to regulate the operation and parking of motor vehicles and to exercise the police power for the public safety, health, welfare, and orderly use of public rights-of-way; and
- WHEREAS,** the Mayor and Council find that clear and enforceable parking regulations are necessary to preserve safe traffic movement, protect emergency access, maintain access to mail receptacles and public facilities, and reduce conflicts between parked vehicles, pedestrians, emergency responders, and moving traffic; and
- WHEREAS,** the Mayor and Council desire to clarify existing parking prohibitions near intersections, fire hydrants, fire appurtenances, fire lanes, emergency access areas, mail receptacles, fire stations, and residential streets without eliminating existing street-specific parking restrictions; and
- WHEREAS,** O.C.G.A. § 40-6-200 authorizes local authorities by ordinance to permit angle parking, subject to applicable state-law limitations for federal-aid and state highways; and
- WHEREAS,** the Mayor and Council find that angle parking in specified marked locations will promote orderly parking, efficient use of public streets, and access to downtown businesses, public facilities, and civic destinations; and
- WHEREAS,** the Mayor and Council find that repeat parking violations burden public-safety personnel, interfere with emergency access and traffic flow, and require a progressive enforcement structure to promote compliance; and
- WHEREAS,** the Mayor and Council desire to authorize a progressive parking penalty schedule, mandatory court appearance for chronic repeat offenders, and

removal, impoundment, or immobilization of vehicles when necessary to protect public safety and enforce this Code; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council have determined that this ordinance amendment is in the best interest of the City's residents and promotes the public health, safety, welfare, and orderly regulation of traffic and parking within the City.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Mayor and the City Council of Dallas, Georgia that:

SECTION I. SECTION 38-4 OF CHAPTER 38 TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Dallas, Georgia, is hereby repealed in its entirety and replaced with a new Section 38-4, "Parking regulations and enforcement," to read as follows:

Sec. 38-4. Parking regulations and enforcement.

(a) *Intersections and street corners.* No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle within twenty (20) feet of the intersection of two public streets, alleys, highways, or thoroughfares within the corporate limits of the City, unless a shorter or different distance is expressly authorized by official traffic-control markings or signs installed by the City.

(b) *Fire hydrants, fire appurtenances, fire lanes, and emergency access areas.*

- (1) *Fire hydrants and fire appurtenances.* No person shall stand or park a vehicle within fifteen (15) feet of any fire hydrant, fire department connection, sprinkler connection, standpipe connection, or other fire-protection appurtenance.
- (2) *Fire lanes and emergency access areas.* No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle, whether occupied or unattended, in any fire lane, fire apparatus access road, emergency access area, or other area designated for fire, rescue, police, emergency medical, or other public-safety access.
- (3) *Marking and designation.* For purposes of this section, a fire lane, fire apparatus access road, or emergency access area may be designated by any one or more of the following: official signs; pavement markings; red-painted curb; red-painted pavement; curb, pavement, or surface markings stating "Fire Lane," "No Parking – Fire Lane," "Emergency Access," "No Parking," or similar language; striping; or any other official marking or traffic-control device installed or authorized by the City.
- (4) *Obstruction of emergency access.* No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle in a manner that obstructs, impedes, delays, narrows, or interferes with access by fire apparatus, law enforcement vehicles, ambulances, public works vehicles, utility vehicles, or other emergency or public-safety vehicles.
- (5) *Removal authorized.* Any vehicle parked, stopped, or standing in violation of this subsection may be cited and, when the vehicle blocks, obstructs, impedes, or interferes with emergency access or creates a public-safety hazard, may be removed or caused to be removed immediately by a law enforcement officer or other authorized City official to the nearest garage, impound lot, or other place of safety at the owner's expense, as authorized by state law and this Code.
- (6) *Repeat violations.* In addition to any citation or fine authorized by this Code, a vehicle found parked, stopped, or standing in a signed or marked "No Parking – Fire Lane," "Fire Lane," or "Emergency Access" area after two (2) prior parking violations involving the same registered owner or vehicle within the preceding twelve (12) months may be removed or caused to be removed at the owner's expense, regardless of whether the vehicle is obstructing emergency access at the time of removal.

(c) *Mail receptacles.* No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle within ten (10) feet of any mail receptacle maintained by the United States Postal Service, except that temporary parking

shall be permitted within a marked parking space adjacent to a cluster box unit for the limited purpose of depositing or retrieving mail.

(d) *Fire stations.* No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle within forty (40) feet of the entrance to any fire station that houses emergency vehicles. No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle on the side of a street opposite the entrance to any fire station where official signs prohibit such parking or standing.

(e) *Location-specific parking restrictions.*

(1) *Residential streets.*

- a. No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle on any residential street except within a marked parking space adjacent to a cluster box unit on a temporary basis for the limited purpose of depositing or retrieving mail, or where parking is otherwise expressly authorized by official signs or markings installed by the City.
- b. No person shall stop, stand, or park any boat, trailer, camper, recreational vehicle, inoperable vehicle, commercial vehicle, or other vehicle or equipment on any residential street unless expressly authorized by this Code or by official signs or markings installed by the City.
- c. For purposes of this section, the term "residential street" means any street adjacent to or serving property zoned R-1, R-2, R-3, or TH, or any successor residential zoning classification adopted by the City.

(2) *Street-specific restrictions.* Parking is prohibited on the following streets and thoroughfares and will be so designated by either curbs painted a yellow color and/or signs that state "No Parking" or "Parking Prohibited:"

- a. Both sides of Confederate Avenue from milepost 11.95, the intersection of S.R. No. 6, to milepost 12.02, the intersection of Watson Drive, a distance of 0.07 miles.
- b. Both sides of Main St. except in marked parking space on a temporary basis on the east side from East Griffin St. to East Cooper Ave.
- c. Both sides of East Griffin Street from Main Street, to Church Street.
- d. The north side of Forest Avenue from Main Street to South Johnston Street, with the exception of Sundays on which parking will be allowed for church services only.
- e. Both sides of East Spring Street, from Main Street, to Church Street.
- f. Both sides of West Spring Street from Main Street to its intersection with South Johnston Street, with one hour temporary parking allowed for loading and unloading.
- g. All of SR 6/Hwy. 278 aka Jimmy Campbell Parkway in its entirety inside the Dallas city limits.
- h. The west side of Courthouse Square Street, from its intersection with West Griffin Street, to its intersection with West Memorial Drive (S.R. No. 6), except for a temporary loading zone for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading property or passengers.
- i. Both sides of Paulding Lane from its intersection with Academy Drive to the intersection of East Paulding Lane and North Paulding Lane.
- j. Both sides of Paulding Lane from the intersection of Dallas Circle to the intersection of Paulding Lane and Hilltop Circle North.
- k. Beginning at a point on the north side of Paulding Lane at its intersection with Hilltop Circle North and continuing west on the north side of Paulding Lane for a distance of 1,172 feet.
- l. Beginning at a point on the north side Paulding Lane at the intersection of Hilltop Circle South and continuing west on the north side of Paulding Lane for a distance of 430 feet.

(f) *Angle parking permitted in designated locations.*

(1) *Authorization.* Subject to O.C.G.A. § 40-6-200, all other applicable state law, this section, and all official traffic-control devices, angle parking is permitted only within

parking spaces that are marked or signed by the City for angle parking on the streets and locations listed in paragraph (5) of this subsection.

- (2) *Compliance with markings and signs.* No person shall stop, stand, or park a motor vehicle in an angle-parking space except wholly within the marked space and at the angle indicated by official markings or signs. Where individual parking spaces are designated and marked, no person shall park any motor vehicle across any such marking or outside the area designated for parking.
- (3) *Encroachment into travel lanes prohibited.* No person shall stop, stand, or park any motor vehicle, trailer, or combination of vehicles in an angle-parking space in a manner that causes any portion of the vehicle, trailer, load, or attached equipment to encroach into a travel lane, obstruct the free movement of traffic, obstruct visibility, or create a public-safety hazard.
- (4) *Head-in parking required unless otherwise marked.* Where the marked parking angle is less than ninety (90) degrees from the curb or edge of the roadway, a motor vehicle shall enter the parking space by forward movement unless official markings or signs installed by the City expressly authorize back-in angle parking.
- (5) *Designated locations.* Angle parking is permitted at the following locations, in marked parking spaces only:
 - a. The east side of Courthouse Square.
 - b. The north side of West Griffin Street between Hood Street and South Street.
- (6) *State and federal-aid roadways.* No angle-parking space shall be established, marked, or signed on any federal-aid highway or state highway unless the Georgia Department of Transportation has made the determination required by O.C.G.A. § 40-6-200(c).
- (7) *Existing prohibitions preserved.* Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to authorize parking in any location where parking is otherwise prohibited by this section, by state law, by official traffic-control device, or by any other applicable ordinance.

(g) *Penalties and enforcement.*

- (1) *Progressive parking penalty schedule authorized.* The City Manager is authorized to establish and maintain a progressive parking penalty schedule for violations of this section and for any other parking violation under this Chapter unless a more specific penalty is expressly provided elsewhere in this Code. The schedule shall be established upon recommendation of the Municipal Court Administrator and the City Attorney and shall be filed with the City Clerk.
- (2) *First, second, and third offenses.* The progressive parking penalty schedule may establish increased scheduled fine amounts for a second parking offense and a third parking offense occurring within a twelve-month period. The twelve-month period shall be measured from the date of the first parking offense.
- (3) *Fourth and subsequent offenses; mandatory appearance.* A fourth or subsequent parking offense occurring within twelve months of the first parking offense shall require the defendant to appear in the Municipal Court of the City of Dallas and shall not be disposed of by payment of a scheduled fine before arraignment or hearing, unless otherwise authorized by the Municipal Court Judge.
- (4) *Enhanced penalty for fourth and subsequent offenses.* Upon conviction, plea of guilty, plea of nolo contendere, or bond forfeiture for a fourth or subsequent parking offense occurring within twelve months of the first parking offense, the Municipal Court may impose a fine not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00), probation not to exceed the maximum period authorized by law for violation of a municipal ordinance, or any other lawful sentence within the limits established by this Code and state law, together with any surcharge, court cost, probation fee, or other fee authorized by law.
- (5) *Calculation of prior offenses.* Prior parking offenses may be counted for purposes of this subsection if they occurred within the preceding twelve-month period and resulted

in payment of a scheduled fine, bond forfeiture, plea of guilty, plea of nolo contendere, finding of guilt, or other final disposition in the Municipal Court.

- (6) *Parking citation, removal, and immobilization remedies.* In addition to any fine, scheduled penalty, court appearance requirement, probation, court cost, or other lawful sentence authorized by this Code, the City may remove, impound, or immobilize a vehicle as authorized by this section, by Chapter 38, by state law, or by any administrative parking enforcement policy approved by the City Manager. Removal or immobilization shall be at the owner's expense and shall not preclude prosecution of the underlying parking violation.
- (7) *Immediate removal for obstruction or hazard.* A vehicle may be removed or caused to be removed immediately when it is parked, stopped, or standing in a manner that blocks, obstructs, impedes, or interferes with a fire lane, fire apparatus access road, emergency access area, travel lane, driveway, intersection, hydrant, fire department connection, public-safety access point, or other public right-of-way, or otherwise creates a traffic hazard or public-safety hazard.
- (8) *Immobilization of repeat violators.* A vehicle may be immobilized when the same registered owner or vehicle has accumulated three (3) or more parking violations within a twelve-month period, or has unpaid final parking citations as provided by administrative policy approved by the City Manager. Immobilization shall not be used when immobilizing the vehicle would obstruct emergency access, impede traffic, or create a public-safety hazard; in such case, removal or towing shall be the preferred remedy. No person shall remove, tamper with, damage, disable, deface, destroy, or attempt to remove any immobilization device installed or authorized by the City except under the direction of an authorized City official or the City's authorized designee. A violation of this provision shall be punishable as a municipal ordinance violation, and nothing herein shall preclude prosecution under applicable state law or recovery by the City of the cost of repair, replacement, removal, storage, towing, or administrative processing
- (9) *Judicial authority preserved.* Nothing in this subsection shall limit the authority of the Municipal Court Judge to hear contested cases, determine guilt or innocence, impose any lawful sentence within the limits established by this Code and state law, waive or reduce fines where legally appropriate, convert financial obligations to community service where authorized by law, or establish court rules governing mandatory appearances and pretrial disposition of parking citations.

SECTION II. REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCES. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION III. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason found to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance or any part thereof.

SECTION IV. EFFECTIVE DATE. Following passage and approval of this ordinance by the Mayor and City Council, this ordinance shall be effective immediately.

**SO SHALL IT BE ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF DALLAS, GEORGIA, THIS THE ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

L. James Kelly, Mayor

James R. Henson, Councilmember

Cooper Cochran, Councilmember

Nancy R. Arnold, Councilmember

Christopher B. Carter, Councilmember

Leah Alls, Councilmember

Candace Callaway, Councilmember

ATTEST:

Tina Clark, City Clerk of the City of Dallas, GA

Date