

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-10

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
ESCONDIDO, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING ESCONDIDO
MUNICIPAL CODE SECTIONS 28-154 AND 28-155 TO
REGULATE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARKING

WHEREAS, the parking or storing of recreational vehicles, whether motorized or towed, on City of Escondido ("City") streets and municipal parking lots can negatively affect traffic safety and quality of life for those who live and work in this City; and

WHEREAS, traffic safety impacts of recreational vehicles parked or stored on City streets and municipal parking lots include impaired visibility of pedestrians and drivers, impaired access to driveways and cross-traffic on narrow residential streets, and impaired sight distance for pedestrians and drivers if the recreational vehicle is parked close to an intersection or on a curve; and

WHEREAS, quality of life impacts of recreational vehicles parked or stored on City streets and municipal parking lots include illegal discharge of wastewater onto streets, municipal parking lots, or the storm water system, trash or litter left by the recreational vehicle owners, and reduced parking on streets and municipal parking lots for passenger vehicles for residents and business customers; and

WHEREAS, allowing recreational vehicles to park on City streets for no more than one 24-hour period at a time, and then, only when parked within 100 yards of the address listed on the recreational vehicle's Department of Motor Vehicle registration balances the needs of recreational vehicle owners in the City with other users of public streets and municipal parking lots; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Vehicle Code section 4159, any registered owner of a vehicle who moves or acquires a new address different from the address shown upon the registration card issued for the vehicle shall within 10 days notify the Department of Motor Vehicles of the old and new address; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Vehicle Code section 4160, any registered owner of a vehicle who moves or acquires a new address different from the address shown upon the registration card issued for the vehicle shall within 10 days change the address on the registration card; and

WHEREAS, allowing for City parking lots to be posted as exempt from the prohibition gives the ability to create additional alternate parking as needed; and

WHEREAS, City Resolution No. 2022-176 delegates authority to the City Manager to monitor and regulate by signage and enforcement the usage of all municipal parking lots to ensure that the municipal parking lots are used to their highest and best use for the benefit of local businesses and customers and as otherwise required by law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 33, Article 25 of the Escondido Municipal Code regulates the parking of recreational vehicles in residential zones when not within completely enclosed structures, permitting such parking in the residential agriculture (R-A), residential estates (R-E), and single-family residential (R-1) zones, and on a property developed with a single-family residence in the multifamily zones (R-2, R-3 and R-4) subject to specific development standards; and

WHEREAS, the City of Escondido offers recreational vehicle parking in the Dixon Lake Campground; and

WHEREAS, there is a permitted and licensed travel trailer park renting space to recreational vehicles within Escondido boundaries; and

WHEREAS, there are multiple travel trailer parks renting space to recreational vehicles throughout the County of San Diego; and

WHEREAS, the availability of alternate recreational vehicle parking balances the needs of all recreational vehicle owners with all City residents and other users of public streets and municipal parking lots; and

WHEREAS, California Vehicle Code section 22507 authorizes local authorities, by resolution or by ordinance, to restrict the parking of certain vehicles on certain streets during all or certain hours of the day, including designating certain streets upon which preferential parking privileges are given to residents and merchants adjacent to streets for their use and enjoyment; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Vehicle Code section 22507, such a parking restriction shall not apply until signs or markings giving adequate notice thereof are placed; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Vehicle Code section 22507, a resolution or ordinance adopted pursuant to this section may contain provisions that are reasonable and necessary to ensure the effectiveness of the parking restriction; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Vehicle Code section 22651(n), a peace officer may remove a vehicle located within their jurisdiction if a vehicle is parked or left standing where a local authority, by resolution or ordinance, prohibited parking and authorized the removal of vehicles, provided that signs are posted giving notice of the removal; and

WHEREAS, Escondido Police Department Instruction 4.2 establishes policy for vehicle impounds if authorized under the authority of the California Vehicle Code; and

WHEREAS, prohibiting the parking or storing of recreational vehicles on city streets and municipal parking lots promotes the health, safety and general welfare of the community by preserving the residential character of neighborhoods, preserving the commercial character of business areas, preventing the illegal discharge of wastewater from recreational vehicles into storm water systems, preventing the illegal disposal of trash on streets or easements, and preventing traffic safety problems associated with recreational vehicles parking or being stored on city streets and municipal parking lots such as impaired visibility for pedestrians and drivers or impaired access to driveways.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Escondido, California, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN as follows:

SECTION 1. That the above recitations are true.

SECTION 2. That Escondido Municipal Code section 28-154 Stopping, Standing, Parking in Alley, is hereby amended and renumbered as section 28-154(a).

SECTION 3. That Escondido Municipal Code section 28-155 Stopping, Standing, Parking in Parkway, is hereby amended and renumbered as section 28-154(b).

SECTION 4. That Escondido Municipal Code section 28-155 is amended with a title of "Recreational Vehicle Parking Restrictions" and to read as follows:

(a) No person shall park any recreational vehicle, as defined in subsection (b), upon any highway, street, alley, public way, public place, or municipal parking lot in the city of Escondido except:

(1) A recreational vehicle may be allowed to park for a total of 24 hours before and 24 hours after a trip to facilitate the loading and unloading of that vehicle or trailer, provided that the vehicle is parked within 100 yards of the address to which it is registered with the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

(2) If that vehicle is involved in an emergency, or that vehicle is being repaired under emergency conditions. However, a vehicle that cannot be readily repaired and moved may be impounded pursuant to California Vehicle Code section 22651(n).

(3) If that vehicle is parked in a municipal parking lot where a sign is posted authorizing recreational vehicle parking.

(4) If that vehicle is owned by a federal, state, or local agency.

(5) If the Director of Emergency Services has declared a local state of emergency pursuant to Chapter 7 of the Code, the Director of Emergency Services may temporarily suspend subsection (a) as part

of that declaration. The suspension of subsection (a) shall expire upon the termination of the local state of emergency unless an earlier time for expiration is provided in the proclamation of local emergency.

(6) When the City of Escondido has issued a special event permit that authorizes the parking of such vehicles in designated areas.

(b) For the purposes of subsection (a), the term “recreational vehicle,” includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) A “recreational vehicle” (California Health & Safety Code section 18010);

(2) A “camp trailer” (California Vehicle Code section 242);

(3) A “fifth-wheel travel trailer” (California Vehicle Code section 324);

(4) A “house car” (California Vehicle Code section 362);

(5) A “trailer coach” (California Vehicle Code section 635);

(6) A “mobilehome” (California Vehicle Code section 396);

(7) A “semi-trailer” (California Vehicle Code section 550).

(8) Boats and/or trailers;

(9) Trailers used for the transport of equipment, vehicles, or animals; and

(10) Folding camper trailers.

(c) A violation of subsection (a) is punishable as an infraction.

(d) Any recreational vehicle stopped, parked or left standing in violation of subsection (a) may be removed and impounded 22651(n).

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional for any reason by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions.

SECTION 6. That as of the effective date of this ordinance, all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 7. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to certify to the passage of this ordinance and to cause the same or a summary to be published one time within 15 days of its passage in a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the County and circulated in the City of Escondido.