



MEDINA, WASHINGTON

AGENDA BILL

Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Subject: Viewpoint Park Parking Stalls

Category: City Council Business – Discussion and direction

Staff Contacts: Stephen R. Burns, City Manager and Jeffrey Sass, Police Chief

Summary

With the opening of the SR 520 bridge and its associated pedestrian/bicycle path across Lake Washington in 2016, Medina PD observed a notable increase in bicycle traffic passing through Medina. This led to concerns regarding the two upper angled parking stalls at Viewpoint Park, where drivers experienced difficulty backing out into oncoming traffic.

In 2020, Medina PD began receiving complaints about after-hours criminal activity, including noise, drug use, and littering, related to vehicles parking in these two stalls. Additionally, residents raised concerns about the use of these parking spaces and impacts on other road users, particularly the potential conflict created by of drivers reversing into oncoming traffic.

In response to these complaints, city staff evaluated several options for addressing these issues and determined that removing the two angled parking stalls was the most effective solution, given the availability of alternative parking spaces located closer to the water.

On November 21, 2022, city staff presented the proposal to close the two angled parking spaces to the Medina Parks and Recreation Board. After thorough discussion over three meetings, the Board endorsed the removal of the two parking stalls.

Following the Board's recommendation, the proposal was brought before the City Council on three occasions during Director's Reports for feedback. At the May 8, 2023, City Council meeting, no objections were raised regarding the closure of the two angled parking stalls. Consequently, City Manager Steve Burns authorized the closure, and Public Works staff installed two yellow bollards to block the stalls in June 2023.

During the Medina Council meeting on June 10, 2024, staff was directed to include the discussion of the Viewpoint Park parking stalls on a future agenda. The two parking stalls at Viewpoint Park which are located off Overlake Drive have been closed for over a year due to the above-referenced concerns, and this discussion will determine whether these stalls should be reopened to public parking.

Discussion

City staff has provided the attached memo as a guide for this discussion.

“Viewpoint Park Parking Stalls” meets and supports Council’s priorities 4 and 5.

Council Priorities:

1. Financial Stability and Accountability
2. Quality Infrastructure
3. Efficient and Effective Government
4. Public Safety and Health
5. Neighborhood Character and Community Building

Attachments:

1) Staff memo

Budget/Fiscal Impact: TBD

Recommendation: Discussion and direction.

City Manager Approval:



Proposed Council Motion: N/A

Time Estimate: 20 minutes