



TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: VICTOR CARDENAS, CITY MANAGER
SUBJECT: ON-STREET PARKING IN HOWELL'S LAKE SUBDIVISION
DATE: MARCH 27, 2025

Mayor and Council –

As an update, it was proven that the Novi FD's vehicles were unable to get through the two cars that were parked. The resident was notified and was asked to move one of them. They refused to do so, forcing the Novi PD to impound one of the cars.

- Victor



In [March 2024, City Council considered a Traffic Control Order](#) to address parking concerns in the Howell's Lake Subdivision (Old Novi Rd. and 13 Mile area).). More specifically, the issue pertains to residents on Wainwright Street, where a particular resident has a car parked in front of their house solely on the road, not utilizing any part of the street "shoulder" within the right-of-way. The situation has since been exacerbated as the same resident has acquired another car and has chosen to park it across from their home, creating an obstacle for larger vehicles, such as garbage trucks, delivery vehicles, and emergency vehicles, from accessing that area (see the picture to the left).

The resident who is causing this issue has since called the fire department regarding her concern. In addition, other residents and neighbors have contacted Novi Public Safety regarding this matter, which has led to an investigation by our Fire Department to confirm the inability of a fire apparatus to access that street. As of today, the Fire Department has verified that the parking of the two vehicles creates an impassable way and may require the resident who owns both cars to move one of the vehicles or face impoundment of the vehicle to ensure a passable way. This goes back to the recommendations provided by the city engineer to either prohibit parking on either side of the streets in Howell's Lake or limit it to one side of the street, preferably not where hydrants are placed.

To make matters more complicated, the resident in question has also reached out to a local news outlet regarding her concerns, and there may be a story run shortly regarding this matter. Ideally, we would hear from the residents in that area regarding a preference on how to limit parking on those streets, as many of them do park there consistently. We will continue to monitor and keep the City Council informed about possible remedies and future council deliberations regarding proposals from city staff on remedies in the area.

As an additional reference point on how decisions are made on traffic control orders relating to parking, it rests on the evaluation of the City's Traffic Engineer and their determination based on the Uniform Traffic Code (UTC):

R 28.1126 Rule 126. Duties of traffic engineer.

(2) All duties carried out by the traffic engineer shall be in accordance with standard and accepted engineering practices as found in the Traffic Engineering Handbook, Fifth Edition, which is adopted by reference in these rules. The Handbook may be reviewed at the East Lansing Headquarters of the Michigan State Police, Special Operations Division, Traffic Services Section. The Handbook may be purchased from the Institute of Transportation Engineers, 1099 14TH Street, N.W., Page 9 Courtesy of www.michigan.gov/orr Suite 300 West, Washington, DC 20005-3438, or from the Michigan Department of State Police, Special Operations Division, Traffic Services Section, 714 South Harrison Road, East Lansing, MI 48823, at a cost as of the time of adoption of these rules of \$110.00 each.

We expect to present the Council with some sort of traffic control order to address the issue in the future. In the meantime, the Police Department will continue to evaluate enforcement options under current ordinances.