



City of Stevenson

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To: City Council
From: Leana Kinley, City Administrator
RE: Downtown Parking
Meeting Date: July 15, 2021

Executive Summary:

Council recently revised the code for development requirements related to parking. Concerns about the time limits along Second Street, large vehicles parking near driveways and blocking the view, and vehicles parking on lawns or fields have been brought to the attention of council and staff. At the June 16th meeting, council requested the topic be discussed at the July 15th meeting. Below is a brief overview of the topic.

Overview:

The code adopting parking restrictions on Second Street from the hours of 2:30 am -5:30 am was last modified or adopted in 1973. Attached are parking ordinances from other cities including Leavenworth, Walla Walla and Hood River, which all have similar weather events and tourism parking challenges. Some of these examples will help during weather events and with snow plowing. Street sweeping is currently done during rain events as our machine needs to use the water from rain, or through other means, to clean the streets. This does not easily transition to a set schedule for maintenance; however, it is an issue which can be worked around.

The topic of a permit system has been brought up and would be best incorporated into the plan for the parking portion of the transportation study. There will be an intern over the summer to work on this project and a report is expected by the fall.

One challenge which may arise with the removal of the time restriction is an increase in encampments relocating from the Portland/Metro area. A suggestion would be to prohibit camping in public places as outlined in the Washougal code attached. This does not prevent people from sleeping in their cars. It does prevent them from camping out during the day (6:30 am – 9:30 pm) in parks and public areas.

Other issues which have come up include tall/large vehicles parked near driveways such as A&J and parking of vehicles on private property outside of a driveway (i.e. on a lawn or field). With the revision of the parking ordinance, does council wish to discuss these items as well and incorporate them into the overall parking code revision?

Action Needed:

Decide how to move forward with revising the parking code.