

MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

From: Gregory E. Buckley
City Manager



Date: July 26, 2024

Subject: City Ordinances Regarding On-Street Trailer and Truck Parking

Trailer Parking

Following up on discussion at the July 15 City Council meeting, we have included a discussion of the ordinance on trailer parking on the July 29 work session agenda.

Council members had expressed an interest in being able to designate zones where trailer parking specifically is prohibited, even if motor vehicle parking is allowed, as a possible tool for alleviating parking congestion in some residential blocks. The Public Works Director has prepared a proposed addition to the Municipal Code language on trailer parking to establish that authority, as shown in the attached draft language (new Section 8-2-11D).

During the discussion on Monday, Council members might also want to consider a further amendment to this section of the Municipal Code, to generally prohibit the parking of trailers on the street, unless they are attached to a vehicle. Right now, the requirement that trailers parked on the street be attached a vehicle applies only during the hours of 2:00 AM to 6:00 AM. While it would still make sense to allow exceptions for trailers owned by contractors who are doing work at a property, it is not unusual for cities to generally prohibit the parking of “unattached” trailers on public streets.

As was noted by the Police Chief at the July 15 meeting, and as I expect many of you have witnessed, our current ordinance language effectively permits trailers, including boat trailers and camper trailers, to be stored on the street throughout the Spring, Summer and Fall, as long as the owner lowers the trailer coupler onto the ball on a vehicle trailer hitch each night and occasionally moves the parking location of the vehicle and trailer (to comply with general 48-hour parking restriction). Maybe a change would make sense.

Truck Parking

While reviewing the ordinance language on trailer parking, Public Works Director Matt Heckenlaible also noted that the language prohibiting overnight parking of certain sizes of truck on city streets might need some attention. As shown in the attached ordinance excerpt (Section 8-2-10B), “truck” is defined as “any vehicle designed or operated for the transport of property or that carries a payload of two tons or more.”

That means that some three-quarter ton pickups and probably ALL single rear wheel (SRW) one-ton pickups are in violation of the ordinance language. See the table below, pulled from the Internet, showing payloads for one-ton SRW pickups:

Model	GVWR	Payload Capacity
Ram 3500	10,700–11,400 lbs.	Up to 7,680 lbs.
Ford F-350 Super Duty	10,100 lbs.	7,850 lbs.
Chevrolet Silverado 3500 HD	10,750 lbs.	4,481 lbs.
GMC Sierra 3500 HD	11,500 lbs.	4,481–7,442 lbs.

Accordingly, if the Council is going to be addressing any on-street parking regulations, it might make sense to increase the payload cited in the definition to a higher number—say, 8,000 pounds.

Sec. 8-2-11. Trailers.

- A. For purposes of this section, the word "trailer" is defined to mean any unpowered vehicle or device designed for carrying property or passengers wholly on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle on a road, street or highway.
- B. Except as otherwise provided in this section, no person shall park, store or maintain any trailer on any street in any residential zoning district (any area zoned R-1 through R-4 on the city's zoning map) in the City of Two Rivers between the hours of 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m., unless such trailer is attached to a motor vehicle which is in operating condition and is duly licensed and registered as required by the laws of the State of Wisconsin.
- C. This section shall not apply to trailers being used by contractors while rendering service to a property on a public street, if said trailer is otherwise lawfully parked on said street, adjacent to said property, and does not present a traffic hazard. In addition, this section does not apply to semitrailers otherwise lawfully parked on public streets situated within or immediately adjacent to the I-1 Zoning District.
- D. Notwithstanding subsection B. hereof, the City Council may, by motion or resolution, further restrict or prohibit the ability to park, store or maintain any trailer on any street within any zoning district in the City of Two Rivers. Copies of any such motion or resolution shall be maintained at the office of the City Clerk and shall be available for public inspection during normal office hours. Such restrictions shall be subject to signage or other requirements imposed by applicable law.

Sec. 8-2-10. - All-night truck parking.

A. No person shall park a truck on any street in a residential area for a period of time longer than one hour between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

B. A "truck" is any vehicle designed or operated for the transport of property or that carries a payload of two tons or more and includes semitractors and semitrailers.

C. A residential area is any area located within areas designated as R1 through R4 on the city zoning map. If a street is located in an area which is zoned residential on one side and other than residential on the opposite side, a truck must be parked on the side of the street which is zoned other than residential in order to remain parked more than one hour between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

D. The city council may, by resolution, prohibit parking of trucks as defined in subsection B. on other streets or in other areas of the city during such hours as the city council may designate, subject to signage or other requirements imposed by applicable law. Copies of such resolutions shall be maintained at the office of the city clerk and shall be available for public inspection during normal office hours.

E. Persons who violate this section are subject to penalties under section 8-1-6.C. of this Code.

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