



**Department of Public Works**

Policy and Planning

201 W. Colfax Avenue, Dept. 509

Denver, CO 80202

[www.denvergov.org/PublicWorks](http://www.denvergov.org/PublicWorks)

November 29, 2012

RE: Residential Permit Parking Program Update and 12/4 LUTI Presentation

Dear Council Members and Aides,

Denver Public Works has spent the last several months researching and evaluating current Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Program policies, practices, and ordinance language in an effort to identify improvements to the program as Denver continues to grow and change. The project team met with several Council offices in early summer to brainstorm ways to improve the flexibility, transparency, and administration of the parking permit program and better position it to remain successful in the future.

The RPP program was originally designed to protect residential neighborhoods from external impacts. However, the character of many of our neighborhoods has changed to include new uses and user groups. Therefore, new flexibility with our parking permit programs is needed to better manage the existing on-street supply.

The current ordinance for *Residential on-street parking permits and fees* (Sec. 54-492) was originally written in the 1950s and designed to allow for residential permits only. These permits are issued to residents to exempt them from posted time limits, but are only valid on the block of residence. This does not allow for businesses or other user groups to participate in the program despite the increasing number of mixed use areas in the City.

The Strategic Parking Plan (SPP, 2010) proposed an expansion of the permit program to acknowledge these additional user groups who also have a stake in the on-street parking inventory in mixed use areas. The SPP also recommended expanding the permit program to better reflect Denver's established commitment to customizing parking management based on context. Based on those recommendations and a growing need for additional tools, new ordinance language will expand Denver's permit parking programs to better serve diverse user groups and areas.

Two new tools are proposed in the new ordinance language. It is important to note that the new language leaves the RPP program intact, meaning RPP boundaries and general program parameters do not change. However, the new language adds two new permit tools to our toolbox, which will provide the additional flexibility to address changing needs.



1. The first new permit type will be used to ***Better Manage the Use of the Public Right-of-Way***. These permits are issued in more localized situations with unique situations such as issuing permits to teachers that need to park during the day in restricted on-street spaces near their schools.
2. The second new permit type will be designed and issued based on a completed and approved ***Area Management Plan***. These permits will be customized to the needs and circumstances of specific areas based on input from stakeholders and review from divisions of Public Works including Traffic Engineering Services, Parking Operations, Policy and Planning, and Right of Way Enforcement.

Again, these two new permit tools join the already existing RPP permit to round out a full toolbox of available management strategies. We are confident that these permit types will strengthen our future ability to address and manage parking challenges as they arise in our changing city.

We look forward to the opportunity to present more details on this ordinance revision request on Tuesday, December 4th at the Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTI) meeting. We welcome your questions and the opportunity to present this proposal.

Thank you!

Best,

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