



City of Arts & Innovation

Transportation Board

TO: TRANSPORTATION BOARD **DATE: JANUARY 5, 2022**

FROM: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT **WARDS: 2**

SUBJECT: WATKINS DRIVE – ESTABLISHMENT OF TIMED NO PARKING ZONE

ISSUE:

Establishment of a Timed No Parking Zone on the west side of Watkins Drive from Blaine Street to Valencia Hill Drive.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Transportation Board recommend that the City Council approve establishment of a “No Parking between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Daily” zone on the west side of Watkins Drive from Blaine Street to Valencia Hill Drive.

BACKGROUND:

City staff received a request from the University Neighborhood Association to restrict nighttime parking on Watkins Drive between Valencia Hill Drive and Blaine Street. The City works with residents and local businesses to establish various time restricted parking zones. Time restricted parking zones are utilized to control parking availability and may help to minimize safety impacts, noise, or other concerns generated by parking during specific times of the day.

Establishment of time restricted parking zones traditionally requires submission of a petition from immediately impacted residents or businesses showing support from a minimum of 75% of tenants or owners for the proposed time restricted parking zone. However, the petition criteria method is usually implemented for residential streets which have direct driveway access to residential homes. Since Watkins Drive does not have any abutting residential driveways and is not classified as a residential street, the petition criteria method is not utilized for this request. Instead, City staff coordinated with the University of Riverside (U.C.R.), California staff regarding the submitted request from the University Neighborhood Association. Once both entities were notified, the proposal is scheduled for consideration by the Transportation Board who makes recommendation to the City Council regarding the matter.

DISCUSSION:

The Public Works Department received an original request from the University Neighborhood

Association to consider elimination of nighttime (8:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.) on-street parking along the west side of Watkins Avenue between Blaine Street and Valencia Hill Drive to better align with the University Neighborhood Plan which envisioned the implementation of time-restricted parking in this area. The Watkins Drive restriping project recently installed a curbside two-way cycle track, buffer, and adjacent parking lane along the west side of Watkins Drive between Blaine Street and Valencia Hill Drive. The striped parking lane (situated between the bike buffer area and southbound travel lane) currently allows parking at all times except within segments equipped with diagonal striping and posted parking restriction signs such as areas adjacent to driveways to aid in ingress / egress movements and visibility of approaching traffic.

Due to potential impacts to adjacent University of California at Riverside (UCR) facilities situated along the west side of Watkins Drive and students at the UCR campus and to balance the needs of the residents and UCR, the Public Works Department is proposing establishment of an overnight parking restriction between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. daily. The proposed restriction will aid in deterring noise and illegal / illicit activity associated with late night and early morning on-street parking and minimize impacts to residents while ensuring UCR facility employees, patrons, and students are not displaced during typical school and business hours. The proposed timed parking restriction would apply to all segments of the parking.

The Public Works Department has informed UCR of the proposed timed parking implementation from the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. daily.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This proposal follows Strategic Plan Goal 2.4, to “Support programs and innovations that enhance community safety, encourage neighborhood engagement, and build public trust.” Additionally, proposed signage relates to the cross-cutting threads as demonstrated below:

1. Community Trust: This project is directly responsive to the University Neighborhood Association request to establish nighttime parking restrictions from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. daily at the subject street with consideration given to UCR’s input regarding school and facility operating hours to establish an overnight parking restriction at the designated location. The Traffic Engineering team responded in a timely manner to include the item on the Board agenda to address the needs of the community.
2. Equity: The proposed nighttime parking restriction hours balances the needs of both the University Neighborhood Community and UCR, by allowing on-street parking during peak school and business operating hours while prohibiting parking during later night and early morning hours when impacts to area residents are most problematic. The Traffic Engineering division will continue to work with all entities should any concerns arise.
3. Fiscal Responsibility: Nighttime parking restrictions are a cost-effective measure to regulate on-street parking, and minimize late night noise and trash concerns.
4. Innovation: This project is neutral towards this cross-cutting thread
5. Sustainability & Resiliency: This project is neutral towards this cross-cutting thread.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of sign fabrication and installation is estimated to be \$900. Funding is available in the existing Public Works Department budget, Signing Supplies account number 4110100-424143,

to cover this cost.

Prepared by: Phillip Nitollama, City Traffic Engineer
Approved by: Gilbert Hernandez, Public Works Director

Attachments:

1. Site Map
2. Aerial Map