RESTRICTED PARKING ZONES IN SEATTLE

FACT SHEET
September 2017

WHAT ARE RPZS?
• Restricted Parking Zones (RPZs) are residential areas around commuter traffic generators – like hospitals or light rail stations – where on-street parking is restricted for those except residents and short-term visitors.

WHY HAVE RPZS?
• Curb space is a limited public resource – RPZs help to balance the needs of those who want to use the same public space.
• Because it’s public, restricting the use of the curb requires a compelling reason. In the case of the RPZ program, it is to prioritize residential and short-term visitor parking over commuter parking in the public right of way.

HOW DO RPZS WORK?
• Signs are installed on the blocks in an RPZ.
• Residents on the blocks within an RPZ can buy a limited number of permits that allow their vehicles to park on street.
• Since curbspace is public, non-permitted vehicles can still park in the area, but must obey the posted time limits.

HOW CAN I GET AN RPZ PERMIT?
• You can check to see if your address is in an RPZ by using the look-up tool on our website, shown at the bottom of this page.
• From the same site, you can find the permit application and instructions for your specific zone.
• Please note: there is a $10, discounted RPZ permit available for households that indicate a financial burden.
• The map below shows the current 34 RPZs in Seattle.

CAN BUSINESSES GET RPZ PERMITS?
• In Southeast Seattle Link Light Rail station areas, businesses may purchase permits for employees.
• Most other RPZs do not allow business permits, though you can apply for consideration based on specific criteria.

HOW CAN I EXPAND AN EXISTING RPZ TO MY BLOCK?
• You can expand an existing RPZ to your block if:
  - Your block is adjacent to an existing RPZ
  - At least 75% of spaces on your block are full
  - 60% or more of households on your block sign a petition to join the RPZ
• For more information on the process of expanding an RPZ to another block, please contact us at RPZRequests@seattle.gov.

HOW CAN I REQUEST A NEW RPZ FOR MY NEIGHBORHOOD?
• You can submit a request for a new RPZ by sending a formal letter from your neighborhood council or from residents of the area.
• The letter should specify the traffic generator and the blocks where the generator is causing on-street parking congestion.
• SDOT also considers other strategies, such as adding parking on both sides of a street where possible, or utilizing transportation demand management programs.

Visit us online for more information
www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/parkingrpz.htm