

# RESTRICTED PARKING ZONES IN SEATTLE

FACT SHEET | March 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?

- Curbspace 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 shortterm 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 33 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.





