

**SEPA DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS)
SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
2009 City of Seattle Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ) Revisions Ordinance**

Description of proposal: The Seattle Department of Transportation is proposing ordinance changes to Seattle Municipal Code to improve the Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ) program to better achieve the City's goals for transportation, economic development, social equity, and sustainability.

Since 1977, the RPZ program has helped ease parking congestion in residential neighborhoods, while balancing needs for all vehicles to use public right-of-way. RPZs restrict parking for residents, their visitors, service-related vehicles, and short-term parking users. As of March 2009, Seattle has 27 RPZs operating daily at varying days and hours. SDOT issues approximately 17,000 RPZ permits annually.

Starting in 2007, SDOT started a major RPZ program policy review to incorporate the following objectives into the RPZ program:

- reduce traffic impacts to neighborhoods from large generators;
- support mixed-use neighborhoods and local business districts;
- continue to reduce overall energy use and vehicle emissions; and
- implement a program with simple rules that are easily understood and clearly applied.

In developing draft and final recommendations, SDOT used extensive technical analysis, review of other cities' RPZ programs, and comments from residents, business owners, and major institutions.

The RPZ Policy Review final recommendations cover these elements:

- Managing permit parking demand – limit permit sales to eight permits per household to address extreme permit abuse
- Permit eligibility – require vehicles be registered to eligible residents' name and address to address abuse
- Major institutions policy – for new or expanding major institutions, limit permit payment as traffic mitigation by major institution to a maximum of two permits for up to one permit cycle
- Business and institution pilot program – Create a pilot program that allows eligible employees in Sound Transit LINK Initial Segment station areas to purchase RPZ permits
- Guest permits – create single-day guest permit in addition to biennial permit
- New zone creation process – change technical and community engagement requirements. Zone parking study would need to show at least 75% parking occupancy along affected blocks and 50% of vehicles as non-residents. Area would need to contain at least 10 contiguous city blocks.
- Process to modify and remove zones – change technical and community engagement requirements to be consistent the new zone creation process
- Parking enforcement – create additional fines to address permit abuse
- Customer service – create on-line permit payment and eligibility checks for permit holders

Proponent: City of Seattle, Department of Transportation (SDOT)
Seattle Municipal Tower
P.O. Box 34966
Seattle, WA 98124-4996

Location of proposal: The RPZ program applies to the entire city of Seattle.

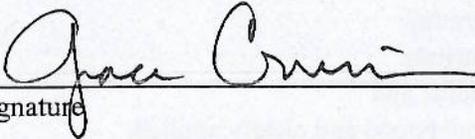
Lead Agency: SDOT

SDOT has determined that this proposal would not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information may be examined in the Seattle Department of Planning and Development Public Resource Center at 700 Fifth Ave, Suite 2000, Seattle. Documents are also available at the main branch of the Seattle Public Library, 1000 Fourth Ave, Seattle. On-line the documents can be reviewed at http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/rpz_policy_review.htm

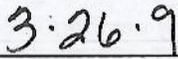
This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) and Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.05.340; the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the issue date below. **Comments must be submitted by 5:00 PM on April 13, 2009.**

Issue Date: March 30, 2009

SEPA Responsible Official: Grace Crunican, Director, SDOT



Signature



Date

Represented by: Mary Catherine Snyder, SDOT

Telephone: (206) 684-8110

Any interested person may appeal this DNS by submitting a Notice of Appeal and a \$50.00 filing fee to the Office of the Hearing Examiner located at 700 Fifth Ave, Suite 4000, Seattle; mailing address: P.O. Box 94729, Seattle, WA 98124-4729; telephone: (206) 684-0521. **The appeal must be filed no later than 5:00 PM on April 20, 2009.** The appellant should be prepared to make specific factual objections. See SMC 25.05.680 A(2)(a)(ii) for SEPA appeal procedures.