

**Background**

Over the past year, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) has been studying parking around the Stadium and SODO station areas to determine whether light rail service has impacted nearby on-street parking.



Image courtesy of Seattle Times

SDOT has been considering a restricted parking zone (RPZ) as a way to prioritize on-street parking around the station areas for SODO business needs, rather than transit riders.

By comparing before and after parking occupancy data and working with the community, SDOT can get a good idea of how light rail service might be impacting on-street parking. This will help us determine whether an RPZ might be an appropriate tool to use.

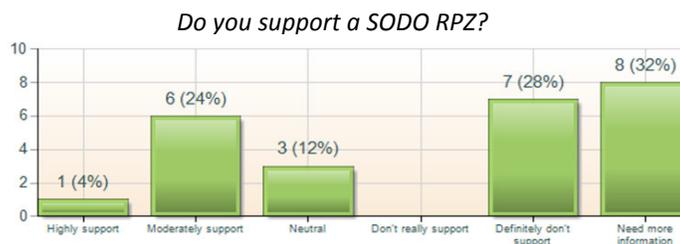
**What's new?**

After analyzing data and working with the community, ***SDOT has determined that light rail service has not significantly impacted the availability of on-street parking near the SODO and Stadium station areas.*** Below is a comparison of data collected before and after light rail service:

SODO & Stadium before & after light rail service average parking utilization					
10AM before	10AM after	% change	2PM before	2PM after	% change
75% (2,216 vehicles)	78% (2,319)	3% (103)	80% (2,360)	71% (2,096)	-9% (264)

*Results from online survey*

- 25 respondents from a mix of companies
- Top concerns: parking for customers and employees
- Mixed reactions to SODO RPZ (see graph)



**Recommendation**

At this time, SDOT does not recommend moving forward with an RPZ. Instead, we would like to hear from SODO and Stadium businesses and property owners to meet any loading zone needs or short-term (2-hour) time limit needs that will support customer access.

**Next steps**

- Throughout next year, SDOT may continue to monitor and study parking around these station areas
- Should parking conditions change, an RPZ is still a potential tool to consider
- *What can you do?* Contact SDOT if you notice changes or would like to request new parking signs

**For more information**

- Contact project manager Allison Schwartz at (206) 386-4654 or [allison.schwartz@seattle.gov](mailto:allison.schwartz@seattle.gov)
- Visit the project online at [http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/lrp\\_sodo.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/lrp_sodo.htm)