

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 22 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, by adding thereto a new article numbered IV-A, which Chapter relates to MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC and which new Article IV-A relates to RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMITS; PROVIDES FOR DEFINITIONS, REGULATES PARKING IN PERMIT PARKING DISTRICTS, PROVIDES FOR EXEMPTIONS, ESTABLISHES A PROCEDURE FOR DESIGNATING A RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT AS A PERMIT PARKING DISTRICT, PROVIDES FOR ISSUANCE OF PERMITS TO RESIDENTS, ISSUANCE OF PERMITS TO VISITORS, ISSUANCE OF PERMITS TO PERSONS DOING BUSINESS WITH A RESIDENT OF A PERMIT PARKING DISTRICT AND ISSUANCE OF PERMITS TO GUESTS, REQUIRES PARKING SIGNS, PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMIT PARKING DISTRICT ON A TRIAL BASIS AND PROVIDES PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.

WHEREAS, the parking of vehicles in residential areas by persons for the purpose of commuting to commercial or industrial areas contributes to hazardous traffic conditions, air pollution, excessive noise and trash and refuse caused by the entry of such vehicles; and

WHEREAS, unreasonable burdens are thereby placed upon the residents of those areas in gaining access to their residences; and

WHEREAS, the city council believes it to be beneficial to the peace, good order, comfort, convenience and welfare of the inhabitants of the city to alleviate such conditions, to promote efficiency in the maintenance of those streets in a clean and safe condition, to preserve the value of the property in residential areas and to protect the safety of children and other pedestrians; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 22 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1963, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended by adding thereto Article IV-A to read as follows:

Article IV-A. Residential Parking Permits.

Sec. 22-121.13. Definitions.

(a) "Residential district" shall mean an area in which seventy-five percent (75%) of the buildings contained therein are used for residential purposes. A residential district shall be established only on an area-wide basis and for the purpose of this article, shall be an area containing no fewer than 400 on-street parking spaces, designating 20 linear feet per parking space. Provided, however, that a residential district may be established in an area containing fewer than 400 on-street parking spaces if the city council shall find that to require the area to contain 400 on-street parking spaces would be impractical or impose an undue hardship.

(b) "Permit parking district" shall mean a residential district in which parking is limited to three consecutive hours unless the vehicle displays a permit as provided in this article.

Sec. 22-121.14. Parking in permit parking districts.

Whenever the city council shall determine that the streets of a particular residential district are being used for parking by the operators of motor vehicles who are nonresidents of that residential district, and the average number of vehicles, of that kind, parking in such a particular district is in excess of twenty-five percent (25%) of the number of parking spaces on such

streets, and the total number of spaces actually occupied by any vehicles exceeds seventy-five percent (75%) of the number of spaces on such streets, the city council may, by resolution, prohibit parking for more than three consecutive hours during the hours of 8 A.M. through 5 P.M., Monday through Friday, in the particular district so surveyed. In such cases the city council shall cause appropriate signs giving notice of the prohibition to be posted on those streets restricting all parking beyond three consecutive hours, except parking by the holders of permits granted under the following conditions:

(a) For each vehicle, belonging to a person who resides in the particular district, for which the person pays personal property taxes to the City of Alexandria and displays a city sticker on the vehicle, there may be issued one color-coded permit entitling that vehicle to park in the restricted district.

(b) To persons who are visitors at a particular residence within a restricted district, for which said permit shall be limited to that particular permit parking district for a stated period but not more than thirty days, and issued to no more than two visitors at a particular residence at any one time.

(c) To persons who do business with any resident of any particular district in which parking is so restricted during the hours of such restriction, limited to that particular district in which parking is so restricted and in which any such person so transacts business.

(d) To persons who are guests of a resident of a particular district, limited to that particular permit parking district and valid for one day or portion thereof. Provided, however, that the number of permits issued shall not at any time exceed fifty percent (50%) of the number of spaces in which they are valid.

Permits shall be color coded to identify the parking permit district in which they shall be valid for parking. Each parking permit district shall be assigned a different color or series of colors for permits issued under this article for the purpose of identifying the districts for which such permits apply.

Sec. 22-121.15. Exemptions.

(a) The parking prohibitions contained herein shall not apply to service or delivery vehicles which are being used to provide services or make deliveries in a permit parking district.

(b) Whenever metered parking is in effect in any portion of a district that becomes subject to the restrictions of this article, the parking spaces controlled by meters shall be excepted from the provision of this article so long as the control by meters continues.

(c) A petition requesting the exemption of a particular block of a permit parking district, signed by more than fifty percent (50%) of the residents of that block, will authorize the City Manager to exempt that particular block from the restricted parking regulations.

Sec. 22-121.16. Procedure for designating a residential district as a permit parking district.

(a) In order to determine whether a particular residential district should be designated as a permit parking district, the city manager shall conduct, upon submission of a petition signed by more than fifty percent (50%) of the residents of such district, an engineering survey to determine whether the criteria described heretofore establishes the district as one qualified to become a permit parking district.

To determine whether a particular district qualifies to have restricted parking, the designated district will be surveyed by the city's department of transportation and environmental services as follows:

A block-by-block survey of the affected district will be taken on a weekday. If more than seventy-five percent (75%) of the parking spaces are occupied by parked vehicles, then no further vehicle counts will be made. If seventy-five percent (75%) of the spaces are not occupied, but it may be expected that the seventy-five percent (75%) level may be obtained, then an additional parked vehicle count shall be made until an average of seventy-five percent (75%) is found or rejected. In those residential districts where seventy-five percent (75%) of the parking spaces are occupied, a study will be made to determine if the number of vehicles owned by nonresidents of the districts exceeds twenty-five percent (25%). If more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the parking spaces are occupied by vehicles of nonresidents, then that district may be qualified to have restricted parking.

(b) Upon completion of the aforesaid survey, the results shall be submitted to the city's traffic and parking board for its recommendation to the city council. Notice of the submission shall be sent to each household within the district so surveyed.

(c) In making its recommendation to the city council the traffic and parking board should also consider such matters as the availability of an alternate means of transportation to and from the proposed restricted district, air pollution caused by automobile traffic within that district and the environmental impact of automobile use in the district.

(d) After the traffic and parking board submits its recommendations to the city council, council may adopt an ordinance designating an area which qualifies under the heretofore described criteria as a permit parking district.

(e) Prior to posting signs restricting an area as a parking permit district notice must be sent to each household within that district, stating that the occupants of that household are required to obtain a permit for each vehicle parked in the designated district.

Sec. 22-121.17. Issuance of permits to residents.

(a) After the council adopts a resolution designating a parking permit district, the city manager shall furnish to the fire station nearest to that district, parking permits to issue to the residents of that district upon proof that a two dollar (\$2.00) fee has been paid for the first vehicle owned by a resident, a five dollar (\$5.00) fee has been paid for every additional vehicle owned by that resident or that a one dollar (\$1.00) transfer fee has been paid to transfer the permit from one vehicle to another. Before such fee may be collected, the applicant must provide proof of residence, a vehicle registration card for each vehicle requiring a permit and proof that the applicant pays personal property taxes to the City of Alexandria.

Notwithstanding the conditions contained in the above paragraph, new residents to this city shall be issued permits upon showing that they have recently purchased or leased property for residential purposes in the restricted district.

(b) Any such person applying for a permit, shall show to the city manager or his authorized representative satisfactory evidence that he fulfills all the conditions for such a permit. Whenever the conditions no longer exist, the person holding such a permit issued under this section shall surrender it to the city manager or his authorized representative. No permit issued hereunder shall be valid for more than one year, but may be renewed upon its expiration, provided that the conditions for the eligibility continue to exist.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to represent that he is entitled to such a permit when he is not so entitled or to fail to surrender a permit to which he is no longer entitled. It shall also be unlawful for any person to park a vehicle displaying such a permit at any time when the holder of such a permit is not entitled to hold it.

Sec. 22-121.18. Issuance of permits to visitors.

On the application of any resident of the restricted district, the city manager or his authorized representative shall issue visitor permits limited to that particular permit parking district for a period of no more than thirty days. No more than two visitor permits shall be issued for any resident at any one time. Said permits shall be without cost.

Sec. 22-121.19. Issuance of permits to person doing business with a resident of a permit parking district.

On the application of any person doing business with a resident of a permit parking district, the city manager or his authorized representative shall issue a permit for parking in the permit parking district limited to that particular permit parking district and for a period of no more than the estimated time required to complete the business transaction. In no case shall the permit be valid for more than thirty days. Said permits shall be without cost.

Sec. 22-121.20. Issuance of permits to guests.

On application of any resident of the restricted district, the city manager or his authorized representative shall issue guest permits which will be valid for only one day, upon a showing by the resident that during the hours for which the permits are to be issued his residence will be used in such a way consistent with the residential character of the district and other provisions of law and that visitors to his residence would not be able to park without violating the law. If the city manager or his authorized representative shall find the foregoing facts and further find that the issuance of permits will not unduly impair traffic safety during the time of their validity, he shall issue such permits and may limit the streets or portions of the streets on which they shall be valid. The number of such permits shall not at any time exceed fifty percent (50%) of the number of spaces in which they are valid.

Sec. 22-121.21. Parking signs.

Following the adoption of the ordinance designating an area of a parking permit district, the city manager shall cause parking signs to be posted in the district indicating the following parking restrictions:

Three Hour Parking,
8 A.M. Through 5 P.M.
Except by Permit

It shall be unlawful to park in these districts, without a permit for more than three consecutive hours.

Sec. 22-121.22. Changes in parking permit district boundaries.

Following the designation of a permit parking district the city council, upon receipt of a petition signed by over fifty percent (50%) of the residents of a block contiguous to the district, provided such block qualifies to be a permit parking district as provided in section 22-121.16 of this article may by resolution alter the boundaries of the district to include within it any such block, provided such block otherwise meets the criteria for a permit parking district as set forth in this article.

Sec. 22-121.23. Establishment of trial parking permit district.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, the city council may by resolution establish a permit parking district or districts on a trial basis, for a period not to exceed ninety days, during which period no other petitions for establishment of such districts shall be acted on by the city council. Any permit parking district established on a trial basis pursuant to this section shall, at the expiration of the trial period established by the city council for that district, continue to be a permit parking district as established by this article unless and until it shall be otherwise declared by the city council.

Sec. 22-121.24. Penalties.

Any person who shall violate any provision of section 22-121.17(c) or section 22-121.21 of this article shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

Section 2. That the title of and an informal memorandum explaining this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The city clerk shall have the full text of this ordinance printed in sufficient numbers to supply copies to meet request. The city clerk shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective the date of its final passage.

FRANK E. MANN
Mayor