

ORDINANCE NO. 3201

AN ORDINANCE to amend Chapter 8, Title 5 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, by adding a new article to be designated Article J; which Title 5 relates to TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, which Chapter 8 relates to PARKING AND TRAFFIC REGULATION and which new Article J relates to ON-STREET PARKING STANDARDS.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Chapter 8, Title 5 of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended by adding a new Article J to read as follows:

ARTICLE J

On-Street Parking Standards

Sec. 5-8-160. Purpose and scope of article.

(a) The purpose of this article is to lessen congestion on, to facilitate the safe and expeditious movement of vehicular traffic along, and to ensure the ability of emergency services vehicles to move without delay on the public streets of the city. To achieve this purpose, the article sets forth standards for the size of parking spaces located on the public streets of the city and for the amount of travel way available for vehicular traffic on such streets. The article also sets forth a procedure for the application of these standards which is designed to ensure that the standards are applied to streets or portions of streets where existing conditions pose a threat to public safety and the general welfare.

(b) This article shall apply to all public streets in the city, except such streets or portions thereof located within the R-20, R-12, R-8, R-5 and R-2-5 residence zones.

Sec. 5-8-161. Standards; enforcement of standards.

(a) The following standards apply to parking spaces located on public streets, to the travel way available to vehicular traffic on public streets and to sidewalks adjacent to public streets:

(1) Travel way on one-way streets, with parallel parking only, shall be a minimum width of 16 feet.

(2) Travel way on one-way streets, with perpendicular parking on either side, shall be a minimum width of 20 feet.

(3) Travel way on two-way streets, with parallel or perpendicular parking, shall be a minimum width of 24 feet.

(4) Travel way on four-lane arterial and/or four-lane collector streets, exclusive of parking, shall be a minimum width of 44 feet, except in the Old and Historic District where the travel way shall be a minimum width of 40 feet.

(5) Perpendicular parking spaces for full-size cars shall be a minimum of 9 feet wide by 18 feet long.

(6) Perpendicular parking spaces for compact cars shall be a minimum of 8.5 feet wide by 16 feet long.

(7) Parallel parking spaces for full-size cars shall be a minimum of 8 feet wide by 22 feet long.

(8) Parallel parking spaces for compact cars shall be a minimum of 7 feet wide by 20 feet long.

(9) Sidewalks adjacent to a public street containing perpendicular parking shall be a minimum width of 5 feet and shall be located in a public easement and/or public right-of-way.

(10) Sidewalks adjacent to a public street containing parallel parking shall be a minimum width of 5 feet and in a public easement and/or right-of-way.

(b) The director of transportation and environmental services shall be responsible for enforcing the standards set out in subsection (a).

Sec. 5-8-162. Review of director's enforcement actions by traffic and parking board and city council.

(a) Before taking any action to enforce the standards in section 5-8-161, the director of transportation and environmental services shall propose the action to the traffic and parking board. Upon receipt of a proposed enforcement action, the board shall schedule a public hearing on the proposed action and shall provide notice of the hearing by posting written notice or notices immediately adjacent to the public street or portion thereof affected by the proposed action. After conducting the public hearing, the board shall make a recommendation to the director on the proposed action. Except as provided in subsection (b), the director may then proceed with the proposed action only in accordance with the board's recommendation.

(b) In the event the board's recommendation does not fully support the director's proposed action, the director may appeal the matter to city council. In the event the board's recommendation supports, in whole or in part, the proposed action, any

person who owns or leases property immediately adjacent to the public street or portion thereof affected by the proposed action and who would be aggrieved by the proposed action if it were implemented by the director in accordance with the board's recommendation may appeal the matter to city council. An appeal under this subsection shall be filed with the clerk of city council within 15 days of the board's recommendation. Within 10 days of the filing of an appeal, the board shall forward in writing its recommendation, along with its reasons in support thereof, to the clerk who shall then docket the appeal for the next regularly scheduled public hearing before council. The clerk shall also provide notice of such hearing by causing an advertisement stating the time, date and place of the hearing before council, the name and location of the public street involved and the nature of the hearing to be prepared and published at least seven (7) working days before the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation published in the city. Following the public hearing, council shall approve, reject or modify, in whole or in part, the director's proposed action.

(c) In reviewing enforcement actions proposed by the director, the traffic and parking board and the city council shall apply the standards in section 5-8-161, unless they determine that a strict application of the standards is not required to protect the public health and safety. In deciding whether a strict application of the standards is required, the board and council shall consider the following factors:

(1) the willingness and ability of the city or a private party to widen, at its or his/her own expense, the affected street or portion thereof so to achieve compliance with the standards in section 5-8-161;

(2) the number and seriousness of traffic accidents on the affected street or portion thereof in the prior five (5) years;

(3) the volume and speed of traffic on the affected street or portion thereof;

(4) the extent to which the parking spaces on the affected street or portion thereof are utilized;

(5) the relationship between the hours of the day the affected street or portion thereof experiences its maximum volume of traffic and the hours of the day the maximum utilization of its parking spaces occurs;

(6) the extent to which the sides of the affected street or portion thereof, although designated for parking, are not actually utilized for parking due, for example, to the presence of driveways and other curb cuts;

(7) the ability of emergency service vehicles to travel on the affected street or portion thereof and the availability of alternative routes for such vehicles;

(8) the need for turning lanes on the affected street or portion thereof; and

(9) the need for on-street parking in the area adjacent to and nearby the affected street or portion thereof.

Sec. 5-8-163. Additional perpendicular parking.

(a) No perpendicular parking may be established on a public street after April 11, 1987, unless approved by the traffic and parking board or city council, as provided in subsections (b) and (c).

(b) Any person owning or leasing property adjacent to a public street may apply to the director of transportation and environmental services for the establishment of perpendicular parking on the portion of the street to which his/her property is adjacent. The director shall review the application for perpendicular parking and thereafter make and forward a recommendation to the traffic and parking board. Upon receipt of the application and the director's recommendation, the board shall provide notice of and conduct a public hearing on the application, as provided in section 5-7-162(a), and shall thereafter issue its own recommendation on the application. The director shall then implement the board's recommendation, unless he/she or the applicant appeals the matter to city council within 15 days of the recommendation. The appeal before council shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure in section 5-8-162(b). Following the public hearing on the appeal, council shall approve, reject or modify, in whole or in part, the application for perpendicular parking.

(c) If the director wishes to establish perpendicular parking on a public street, he/she must submit a proposal for the parking to the traffic and parking board. Upon receipt of the proposal, the board shall provide notice of and conduct a public hearing on the proposal, as provided in section 5-8-162(a), and shall thereafter issue a recommendation on the proposal. The director may then implement the board's recommendation, unless he/she appeals the matter to city council within 15 days of the board's recommendation. The appeal before council shall be conducted in accordance with the procedure in section 5-8-162(b). Following the public hearing on the appeal, council shall approve, reject or modify, in whole or in part, the director's proposal for perpendicular parking.

(d) In reviewing applications or proposals for perpendicular parking, the traffic and parking board and the city council shall

consider the standards in section 5-8-161 and the factors in section 5-8-162(c).

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 requests. 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.

JAMES P. MORAN, JR.
Mayor

Final Passage: April 11, 1987