

## **Proposed Albany Permit Parking System Summary**

Ordinance 46.72.11 would implement a Permit Parking System within certain neighborhoods of the City of Albany as authorized by Sec. 1640-m of the NYS Vehicle and Traffic Law; the system can only be implemented within a three-quarter mile radius of the Empire State Plaza and would be in place for a two year trial period unless extended by the State Legislature. Basic components of the proposal are as follows:

### ***Permit Zones***

The system should encompass three separate and distinct zones as follows (see maps for details and boundaries):

- Zone A those neighborhoods generally west of the Empire State Plaza and consisting of designated streets within the neighborhoods identified as Center Square, Hudson/Park, Park South and Washington Park;
- Zone B those neighborhoods generally east of the Empire State Plaza and south of State Street and consisting of designated streets within the neighborhoods identified as Mansion and Pastures;
- Zone C those neighborhoods generally east of the Empire State Plaza and north of State Street and consisting of designated streets within the neighborhoods identified as Ten Broeck Triangle.

Each zone would require separate signage identifying the area; permits would be issued for a particular zone and not be valid outside that zone.

### ***Duration of the System***

The system would be in effect Monday through Friday (except for legal holidays) from 8 AM to 6 PM. Permit designated streets would allow two-hour short-term parking during the permit periods (M-F; 8 AM - 6 PM) except for vehicles displaying a valid permit which would be allowed to park all day.

### ***Permit Eligibility and Issuance***

The system would include three primary permit classifications:

- Resident Permits would be issued to residents residing within the permit area based on submission of adequate proof of residency and would be coded to the resident's motor vehicle.
- Visitor Permits would be issued to a resident (1) upon purchase of a resident permit associated with the resident's motor vehicle; resident's who do not own a vehicle, or who choose not to purchase a resident permit would be able to purchase a visitor permit upon

proof of residency within the permit area. Visitor permits are for the use of visitors to a residence within a permit area during permit hours and should be used on streets in proximity to the resident's home.

- Merchant/Business Permits would be issued to persons who own or lease real property within a permit area who are not residents but own or lease the property for the purpose of managing a commercial enterprise or professional office there. An additional category of eligibility would be for an employee of a business located within a permit area if their hours of employment are substantially between the hours of 8 AM and 6 PM, Monday through Friday when a permit system is in place. There should be a limitation on the number of such permits that can be issued per business.

Permits would be issued by the City Clerk and activated by the Treasurer upon payment of the applicable fee.

### ***Permit Fees***

It is the intent that permit fees cover the cost of administration of the system and be set at a reasonable level so as not to create a financial burden on permit area residents. All fees are required to be deposited to the General Fund. An annual fee of \$25 for Resident and Merchant/Business Permits and an annual fee of \$10 for Visitor Permits which are separately purchased is established.

### ***Penalties***

In addition to penalties for overtime parking, there are also penalties for fraudulent or unauthorized use of a permit which would include a fine not to exceed \$250 and/or suspension of residential parking permit privileges for a period not to exceed six (6) months.

### ***Designation of Streets and Allocation of Designated Spots***

Streets designated as permit streets may only be those abutting residentially zoned property; State law limits the number of designated spaces to 2,750 (see separate street designation file for details).

### ***Implementation Issues & Evaluation***

The permit system will require a defined time-line for implementation, which should include an education/public awareness component to ensure compliance upfront. There will be an evaluation of the system six months after implementation and annually thereafter. In addition, the Chief of Police, or his designee, will periodically review and assess on-street parking patterns within the residential parking permit areas and those residential areas adjacent to such permit areas and recommend or take such actions as necessary, within his authority to regulate traffic and parking within the city, to address parking or traffic patterns which may prove a nuisance for certain impacted neighborhoods.