

September 25, 2015

Submitted electronically to:
Chairman Anthony Hood
DC Zoning Commission
441 4th Street, NW Suite, 200S
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Proposed Rules ZRR Case No 08-06A
Changes to eliminate Parking Congestion in Residential Neighborhoods

The Problem: on-street parking congestion

Thirty-second Street is one block east of Connecticut and runs parallel to Connecticut Avenue. The 4700 block of 32nd Street is between Chesapeake and Davenport. A high-rise apartment building is located at each corner of Connecticut and Chesapeake and Connecticut and Davenport eight (8) buildings in total. The tenants who own cars hand rent apartments in these buildings are issued Ward 3 Residential Parking Permits (RPP) creating a horrendous problem for **homeowners** -- tenants park and leave their cars on 32nd Street and adjacent streets for weeks sometimes months at a time. Consequently on street parking for homeowners is very limited. Only 7 homes are in the 4700 block of 32nd Street NW but on any given day/night there are 30 plus cars belonging to apartment tenants parked on the street. The buildings at the corners of Chesapeake and Connecticut and Davenport and Connecticut all have adequate parking for tenants.

Indicate the streets and blocks most affected

32nd Street NW -- 4700 Block (between Chesapeake Street NW and Davenport Street NW)

My husband and I live in the Forest Hills neighborhood of **Ward 3**. Our home is in the 4700 block of 32nd Street NW.

When we purchased our home 16 years ago we knew we would be here for the rest of our lives. We planned ahead, investing a lot of time and money over the years to make it suitable for our current lifestyle and for "aging in place". We were quite content and happy living in Forest Hills for the first 14 of the 16 years we have lived here. Now I am 70 and my husband is 65. In recent years parking has gotten worse making day-to-day activities unbearable because we know if we move our car we may not find a place to park near our home when we return.

Describe (to the best of knowledge) why the level of parking congestion is high

Eight (8) high rise apartments: Thirty-second Street is one block east of Connecticut and runs parallel to Connecticut Avenue. The 4700 block of 32nd Street is between Chesapeake and Davenport. A high-rise apartment building is located at each corner of Connecticut and Chesapeake and each corner of Connecticut and Davenport eight (8) buildings in total. The tenants who rent apartments in these buildings are issued Ward 3 Residential Parking Permits (RPP). With the RPP tenants are allowed to park on any street in Ward 3. They often park and leave their cars on 32nd Street and adjacent streets for weeks sometimes months at a time.

Consequently on street parking for **homeowners is very limited**. The tenants outnumber homeowners 10-1. Only 7 homes are in the 4700 block of 32nd Street NW but on any given day/night there are 30 plus cars belonging to apartment dwellers parked on the street. The buildings at the corners of Chesapeake and Connecticut and Davenport and Connecticut all have adequate parking for tenants.

Recommendations/Options to resolve parking congestion:

1. Restricted Permit Parking for Homeowners -- Establish restricted on-street parking sections for homeowners only at all times (seven days a week Sunday-Saturday). Homeowners who opt for this convenience would pay an additional fee for signage installation and special parking permits. Parking for the rest of the block would continue to be enforced under the current RPP and visitor parking rules.

This type of restricted parking is allowed on Capitol Hill on D Street SE between First and Second Streets SE and on residential side streets adjacent to 8th Street in the Barracks Row and Eastern Market area and parts of the Woodley Park area adjacent to the National Cathedral.

2. Eliminate RPP for tenants in newly built buildings.

3. Do not issue RPP for new renters -- Current renters who have RPP and have lived in the building for 10 years or more would be grandfathered in once the new rules are implemented and may continue to renew their permits.

4. Do not renew RPP -- for renters who moved into their building within the past 5 years.

5. Require tenants to park in building -- Increase the RPP fee for renters to the price they would pay to park in their apartment buildings. Management of the buildings should be required by law to enforce this requirement and/or negotiate a mutually agreed upon annual fee for each tenant. Older apartment buildings have adequate parking facilities for tenants. Tenants chose to park on the street because \$35 annually for a RPP is cheaper than parking in their building.

Submitted on September 25, 2015 by:

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