

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY MARCH 27, 2017 7:30 P.M.
301 KING STREET, 2nd FLOOR
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

D O C K E T

1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals.
2. Approval of the February 27, 2017 Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

PUBLIC HEARING:

4. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to change the color scheme for White Top Cab's fleet of taxicabs.
5. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to remove loading zone on Princess Street at the intersection of N. Royal Street.
6. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to reserve two handicapped parking spaces on Bruce Street.
7. **ISSUE:** Consideration of proposed Code changes for the 72-hour on-street parking rule.

STAFF REPORTS AND UPDATES:

1. **Update on Policy for Issuing Residential Parking Permits for New Development**

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY JANUARY 23, 7:30 P.M.
301 KING STREET, 2nd FLOOR
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman, Jay Johnson, Vice Chair, William Schuyler, James Lewis, Randy Cole, Kevin Beekman, Ann Tucker and Casey Kane.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Garbacz, Division Chief, Ravi Raut, Civil Engineer IV, David Soares, Civil Engineer IV, Katye North, Parking Planner, Raymond Hayhurst, Complete Street Coordinator, Patrick Reed, Parking Planner and Cuong Nguyen, Civil Engineer I.

1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals: Item number 6 was deferred.
2. Approval of the November 14, 2016, Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes: Mr. Cole made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kane to amend and approve the minutes of the January 23, 2017 Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The amendments were to docket items 4 and 5. On docket item 4, the amendment included requesting that the applicant be present the next time the issue came before the Board and for staff to provide supporting data justifying the proposed parking removal. On docket item 5, the amendment changed the approved parking removal from 20 feet to 25 feet, and changed the reference to the law mandated parking restrictions around corners from 25 feet to 20 feet. The motion carried unanimously.
3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Frank Van Haste expressed appreciation for the work the City and the Board had done for the community at the crosswalk at Duke Street and Fayette Street.

PUBLIC HEARING:

4. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to remove 85 feet of parking (four parking spaces) on the west side of S. Gordon St at the intersection of S. Gordon Street and Wheeler Avenue.

DISCUSSION: Ms. North presented the item to the Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Bill Hardtke, the applicant, spoke about the issue.

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Tucker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kane to approve the request to remove 25 feet of parking south of the drive way on South Gordon Street, and remove 25 feet of parking north of the stop sign on South Gordon Street. The motion carried unanimously.

5. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to add two hour parking restrictions on Main Line Boulevard.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Reed presented the item to the Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Raghav Vajjhala, Jim Call, Michael Kulas, Sharad Shrestha, Doug Peddicord, Nicholas Hart, Don Slagla, Maryan Minick, Erin Duhlin, Nicholas Reonzn spoke in opposition to the request.

Ryan Tyle, Frank Capine, and Jon Futrell spoke in support of the request.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kane to reject staff's recommendation and for staff to come back to the Board at a later date if parking in this area became a problem. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **ISSUE:** Consideration of placing a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity on Probationary Status.

DISCUSSION: The item was deferred.

7. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to restrict U-turns on Church Street at the intersection of Columbus Street.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Garbacz presented the item to the Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Samuel Ergev opposed the request.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tucker to defer the request for one month to allow staff time to work with the neighborhood about placing NO U-TURN and NO LEFT TURN restrictions at this location at all times. The motion carried unanimously.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 27, 2017
TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD
FROM: T&ES STAFF
SUBJECT: DOCKET ITEM # 4

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to change the color scheme of White Top Cab's fleet of taxicabs.

APPLICANT: Sayed Habib Azimi, Manager L & Z Transportation

LOCATION: N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Board approves the proposed color scheme for White Top Cab's fleet of taxicabs.

DISCUSSION: Sayed Habib Azimi, Manager of L&Z Transportation, Inc. is requesting that the color scheme of White Top Cab's fleet of taxicabs be changed. Section 9-12-28 of the City code requires that each taxicab company have an approved unique color scheme for their fleet of taxicabs. Section 5-8-3 of the City code gives the Traffic and Parking Board jurisdiction over taxicabs. Therefore, this issue must go before the Board for approval. The existing color scheme, as shown in Attachment 1, incorporates a cab that is white on top and blue on the bottom with white lettering. The proposed color scheme incorporates a completely white cab with blue lettering. The cab company name and phone number are proposed to be attached to the front vehicle doors and the cab number to the rear passenger doors as shown in Attachment 1.

These changes are being proposed to make driver entry into the market easier. There are 51 driver vacancies in the City of Alexandria and this number continues to grow. The main reason for the high number of vacancies is increased competition for drivers from Transportation Network Companies (TNC). Signing up to be a TNC driver is very quick and inexpensive. There are no driver tests, vehicle inspections or taxi meters to install. Signing up to be a taxicab driver is more expensive and cumbersome. The proposed change is seen as a way to make driver entry into the taxicab business easier and less expensive.

Attachment 1:

Existing Color Scheme



Proposed Color Scheme



MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 27, 2017
TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD
FROM: T&ES STAFF
SUBJECT: DOCKET ITEM # 5

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to remove the loading zone on the 300 block of Princess Street at Royal Street

APPLICANT: Eric Olson

LOCATION: 300 block of Princess Street.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Board recommend to the Director of T&ES to replace the loading zone on Princess Street at the intersection of North Royal Street with two-hour parking that is consistent with the rest of the block.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Olson has requested that the loading zone be removed along the 300 block of North Royal Street. The loading zone on Princess Street was installed to serve the Royal Street Market many years ago as shown in Attachment 2. The market was demolished and replaced with residential housing as shown in Attachment 3. The loading zone is no longer needed now that the land use for this site has changed. Staff recommends replacing the loading zone with Two-Hour parking

arking restrictions on the rest of the 300 block of Princess
onopolizing the new parking.

Attachment 2

Attachment 3

Attachment 1

From: Eric Olson [mailto:eric.olson@infoeliance.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 15, 2017 10:59 AM
To: Cuong Nguyen
Subject: RE: Removal Loading Zone Request

Cuong,

I am requesting the City of Alexandria remove the loading zone on the side of my house. My address is 335 N. Royal St. Alexandria Va. The loading zone is located on the side of my house on Princess St. The loading zone was probably created to serve the Royal Street Market. But this store was torn down several years ago and replaced by several houses including mine. Therefore, the original reason for the loading zone no longer exists.

Thank you,

Eric

Eric Olson
Executive Vice President
InfoReliance Corporation

Mobile 703.597.4313
Office 703.246.9360 X1114



Attachment 2,

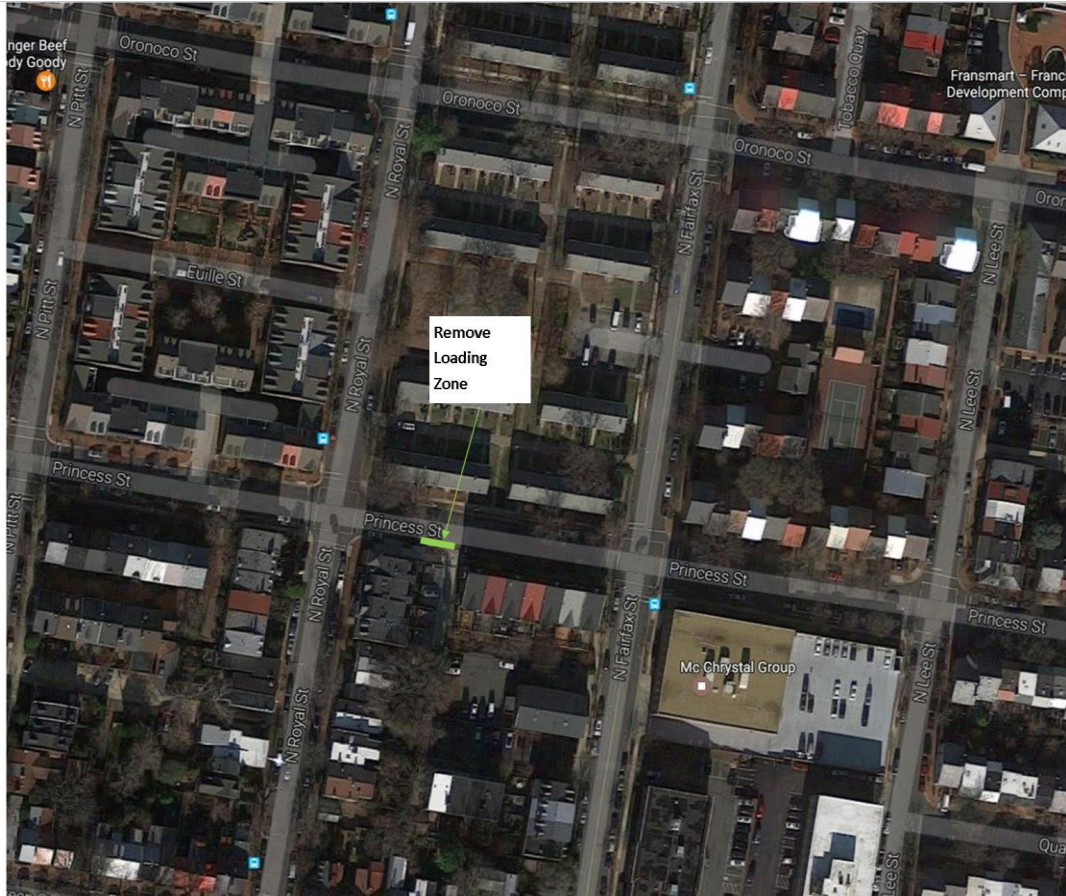
Before Removal of the Royal Street Market



Attachment 3,

After removal of the Royal Street Market





MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 27, 2017
TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD
FROM: T&ES STAFF
SUBJECT: DOCKET ITEM # 6

ISSUE: Consideration of a request to reserve two parking spaces for handicapped parking.

APPLICANT: Arlandria Chirilagua Housing

LOCATION: Bruce Street

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Board recommend to the Director of T&ES to reserve two parking spaces for handicapped parking on Bruce Street.

DISCUSSION: The parking for the Arlington Chirilagua Housing complex on Bruce Street is primarily provided on-street. These apartments were constructed many years ago before requirements for handicapped parking were established. Arlandria Chirilagua Housing is requesting that two of the existing on-street parking spaces be reserved for handicapped vehicles to allow more useful parking options for their disabled residents. Bruce Street has 80 parking spaces of which two are already reserved for handicapped users. The United States Access Board requires four (4) ADA parking spaces for a facility of this size. Parking on Bruce Street is angle parking and the Access Board does not have dimension requirements for diagonal spaces.

Staff is recommending reserving the spaces shown in Attachments 2 and 3. The space shown in Attachment 2 is desirable because there is adequate space to the right of the parking space to better facilitate ingress and egress of the vehicle. The space in Attachment 3 was selected because there is an existing ramp located at the front of the space. Staff believes the space shown in Attachment 2 is of adequate size because the Access Board requires a total of 192 inches (16 feet) combined width between the parking space and the access aisle and this location provides more than that. Staff acknowledges that the space in Attachment 3 is constrained and will work with Arlandria Chirilagua Housing to make the necessary corrections if needed.

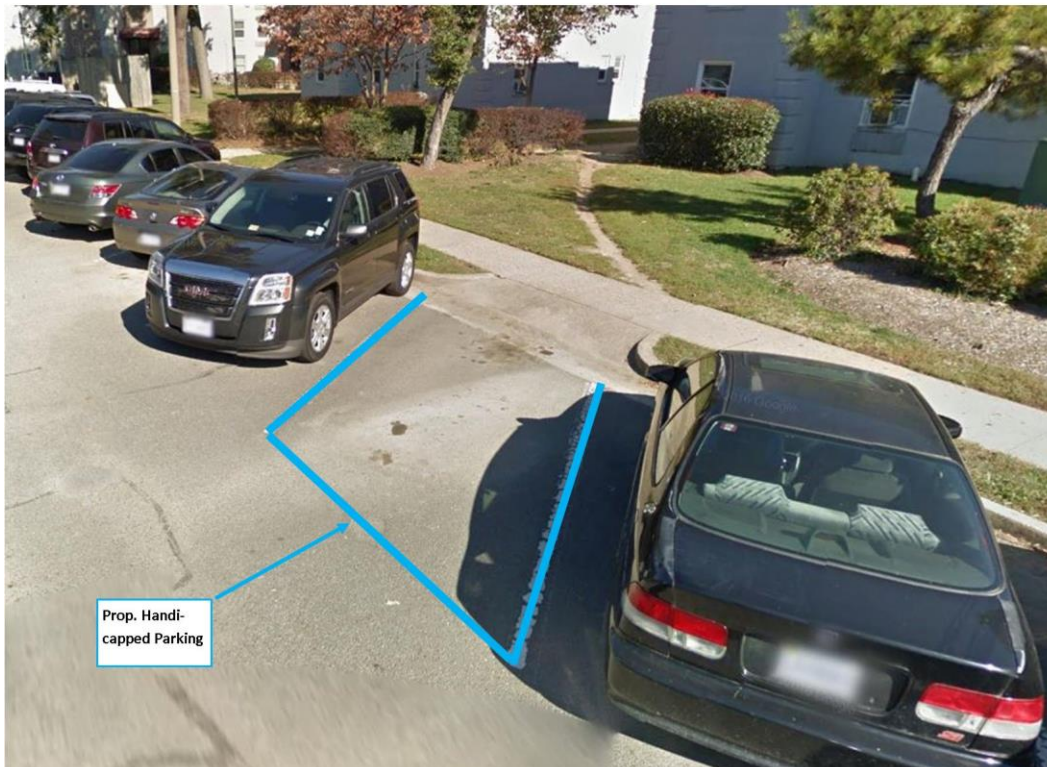
Attachment 1



Attachment 2



Attachment 3



City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MARCH 27, 2017

TO: MEMBERS OF THE TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD

FROM: T&ES STAFF

SUBJECT: DOCKET ITEM 7

ISSUE: Consideration of proposed Code changes for the 72-hour on-street parking rule.

APPLICANT: City of Alexandria

LOCATION: Citywide

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: That the Board recommend approval to the City Council of an amendment to City Code Section 10-4-8 that allows vehicle registrants to apply for a temporary exemption to the 72-hour on-street parking rule.

DISCUSSION: City Code Section 10-4-8 currently prohibits vehicles from parking in the same place on City streets for more than 72-hours, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays. This rule applies to all vehicles—including vehicles parked with stickers in Residential Parking Permit (RPP) districts. There are varying opinions about the original intent of this decades old rule. In practice today, the rule is used to encourage the turnover of on-street parking spaces. A different section of the Code addresses abandoned vehicles. Enforcement is generally generated through resident complaints and is treated contextually. Officers who field complaints typically place a check notice on a vehicle and return within 72 hours (excluding Saturday, Sunday, and holiday hours). If a car has not been moved, an officer may cite the vehicle. Fine amounts are \$25. Vehicles cited multiple times or vehicles that appear to be abandoned are impounded at the discretion of the responding officer.

Background: The Board previously reviewed the 72-hour rule in 2004, but at that time no changes were recommended. In June 2015, City Council directed City staff to review this rule noting three different options for consideration including: 1) an exemption or permit system; 2) extending the time beyond 72-hours; or 3) repealing the rule in full. Staff from the City Attorney's Office, the Department of Transportation and Environment Services (T&ES), and the Alexandria Police Department (APD) met for a preliminary review of the rule. The outcome of

these proceedings included a review of practices in neighboring jurisdictions and analysis of the historical data related to citations issued for violating the 72-hour rule.

Public Outreach & Review Process: T&ES staff initiated the full review of this rule in December 2016. To date, the process has included an AlexEngage questionnaire, two meetings of a subcommittee of the Traffic and Parking Board, and a Citywide Open House. The AlexEngage questionnaire was widely advertised on the City’s website and social media platforms. Staff also performed outreach to the Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations. Various media outlets advertised the questionnaire on their websites. The questionnaire received 783 responses over a two-week period in January. Staff coordinated with the City’s contractor, Peak Democracy, to ensure that that none of the responses indicated fraudulent or repetitive activity.

The results of the questionnaire (Attachment 1 – Questionnaire Results) suggest that there are varying preferences and opinions throughout the City. Based on overall feedback, the questionnaire suggests that individuals generally prefer the implementation of an exemption to the rule or a full repeal of the rule. Supplemental data analysis suggests that individuals who have reported vehicles to APD in the past generally prefer the maintenance of the rule as-is or the provision of an exemption system; however, those who have been cited or impounded prefer the full repeal of the rule or the provision of an exemption system.

T&ES and APD staff hosted a Citywide Open House on February 16. Feedback at this event was generally consistent with the results of the questionnaire. While individuals in attendance represented a broad spectrum of perspectives, individuals who supported a full repeal of the ordinance were generally more vocal. At this meeting, staff assessed feedback regarding the provision of an exemption and realized that additional clarification was necessary. Staff provided this clarification to the subcommittee of the Traffic and Parking Board and posted the clarification on the project website under the “Frequently Asked Questions” header: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/tes/info/default.aspx?id=95263>

A subcommittee of the City’s Traffic and Parking Board met twice to assess policy directions. At its first meeting on January 23, T&ES and APD staff provided the board with the results of the AlexEngage Questionnaire (Attachment 1) and an analysis of enforcement data related to the rule between the years 2010 and 2015 (Attachment 2 – Enforcement Data Analysis). At this body’s second meeting on February 27, staff provided more fine-grained analysis of the questionnaire’s response and reported on feedback from the Citywide Open House. Residents provided additional comments at both subcommittee meetings.

Policy Assessment: Despite a fair amount of public support for a full repeal of the 72-hour rule, staff recognizes the subcommittee’s interest in maintaining the rule as a tool for the Police Department to use in response to citizen complaints. Additionally, some members of the public—particularly those in Old Town—feel strongly that the rule encourages parking turnover and availability. Based on the extensive feedback compiled from the general public and a subcommittee of the Traffic and Parking Board, T&ES staff offers the provision of an exemption for consideration by the full Board. Staff feels that this solution functions as a compromise

between those who do and do not support the rule. Attachment 3 provides the language for proposed Code amendments to section 10-4-8.

An exemption would provide residents relief from section 10-4-8 by allowing a vehicle to park on-street for a maximum of two weeks within 1/8 mile of their residences. Exemptions would be provided on a per-plate basis and residents would need to apply two weeks prior to the time the exemption would begin. Residents would be allowed to apply for an exemption for a vehicle a maximum of four times per year. No more than two contiguous exemptions shall be provided per vehicle. All on-street restrictions would still be applicable; therefore, exempted vehicles would still be subject to restrictions in RPP districts should they not have the necessary RPP decal. Staff suggests the consideration the 1/8 mile distance threshold to support residents who may not have dependably available parking spaces immediately adjacent to or across from their homes. Often this is due to existing “no parking” restrictions, the linear length of frontage, or proximity to non-residential land uses.

In total, the proposed exemptions allow a maximum of 56 days of relief per vehicle per year. As staff recommends that no more than two contiguous exemptions be granted, a vehicle could potentially be parked on-street in the same location for a period of 28 days. This should allow residents sufficient time to park on-street for vacation and business travel, assuming they are not subject to other signed restrictions.

Staff considered a number of logistical elements for the implementation and management of an exemption registration system. As posting exemptions on car windshields may invite break-ins, staff proposes a system that is managed electronically. Using an online form, plates will be registered and approved through an online system managed by APD in coordination with T&ES.

The exemption provision is slated to sunset twelve months after the initial Council approval, expected on June 1st, 2018, at which time T&ES and APD will review existing procedures and process. Any necessary changes will be addressed in future Code changes. Should demand for the program not warrant a continuation of the exemption program, staff will propose the removal of the exemption provision.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Questionnaire Results

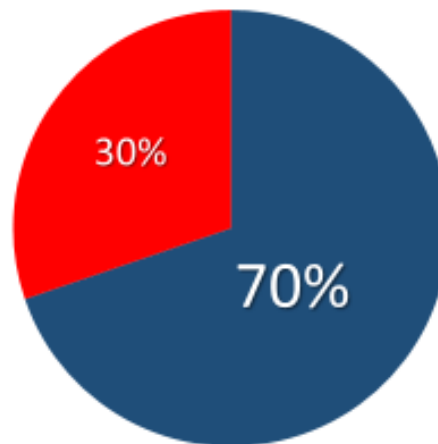
Attachment 2 – Enforcement Data Analysis

Attachment 3 – Proposed Code Amendments

Attachment 1 – Questionnaire Results

QUESTION ONE

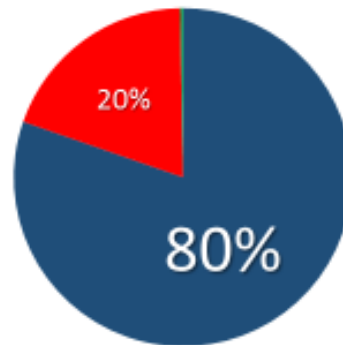
Prior to this questionnaire, were you aware that Alexandria has a rule preventing vehicles from parking on-street for over 72 hours?



■ Yes ■ No

QUESTION TWO

Do you ever need to park on-street for longer than 72 hours?



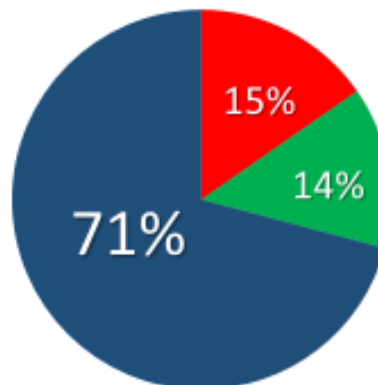
■ Yes

■ While I own a vehicle, I do not anticipate the need to park it on a public street for more than 72 hours.

■ I do not own a vehicle.

QUESTION THREE

Have you ever contacted the Alexandria Police Department to report an infraction of the 72-hour rule?



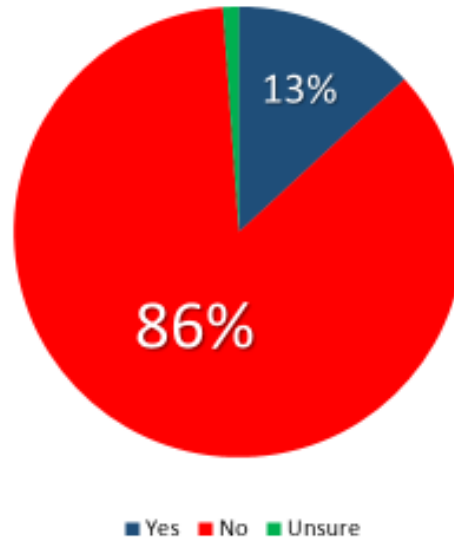
■ Yes, I have contacted APD to report a 72-hour rule infraction.

■ I have not but would if I believed a vehicle had parked for over 72 hours.

■ I have not and would not even if I believed a vehicle had parked for over 72 hours.

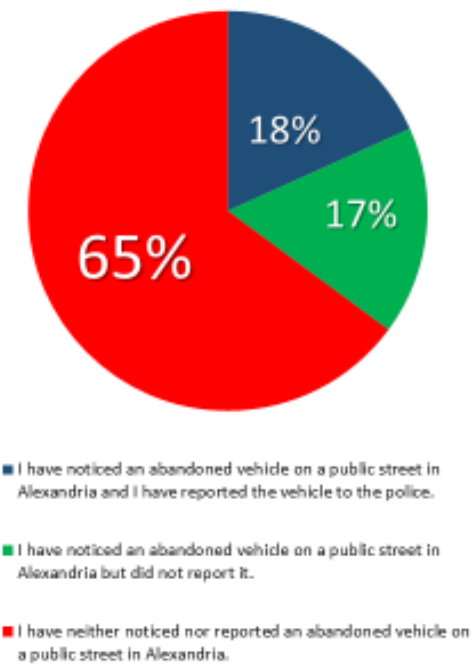
QUESTION FOUR

Have you ever received a citation or notice for a violation of the 72-hour rule or 48-hour abandoned vehicles rule?

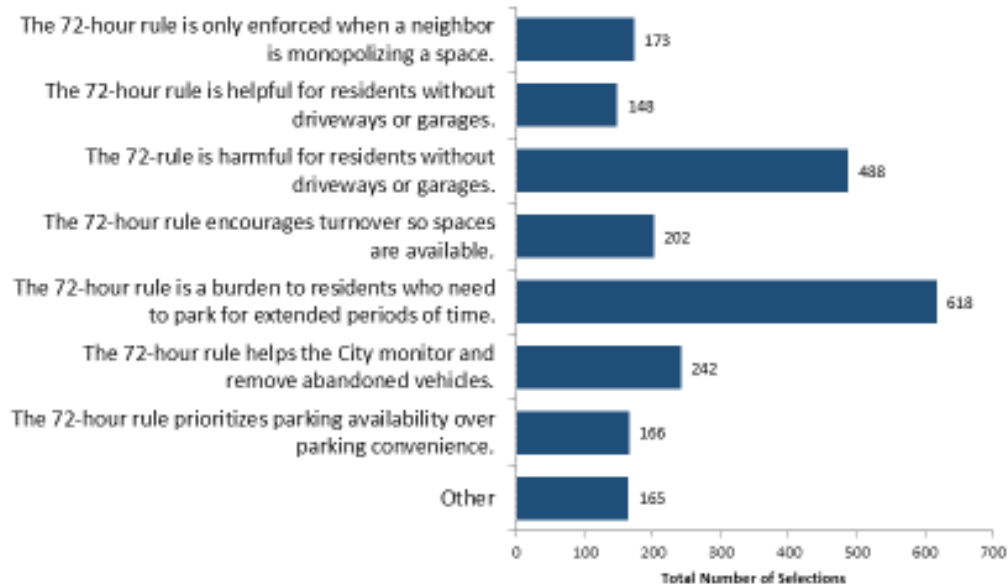


QUESTION FIVE

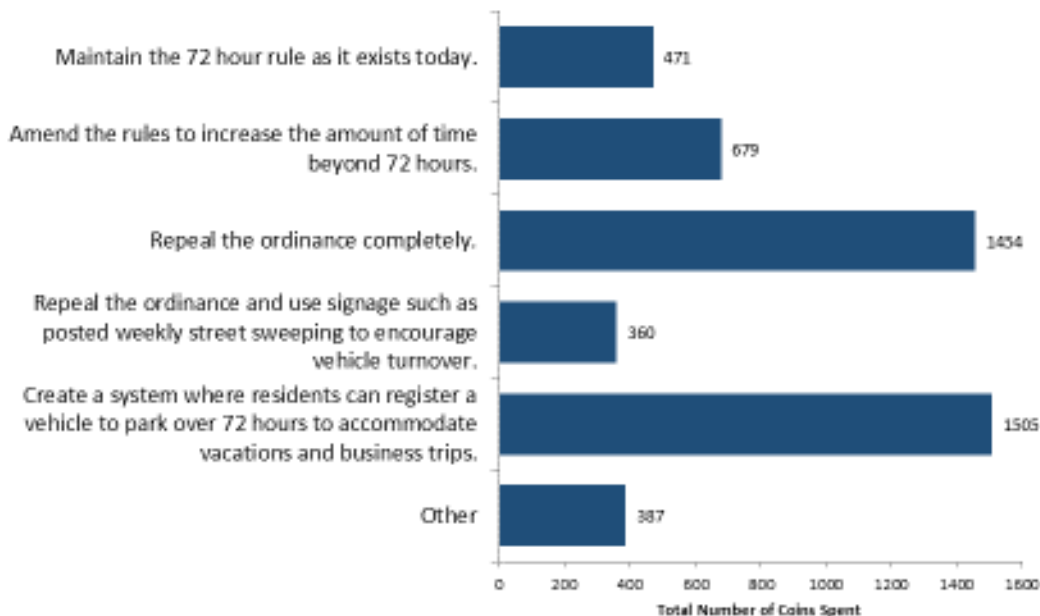
Have you ever noticed an abandoned vehicle on a public street in Alexandria? Choose the statement that best describes you.



QUESTION SIX: Which of the following statements do you believe are true? Select all that apply.



QUESTION SEVEN: The City is reviewing options for the 72-hour rule. Which outcomes are the most desirable for you? Spend your seven coins to show support for the outcomes you feel are best.



QUESTION EIGHT: Do you have any additional thoughts or comments about the 72-hour rule?

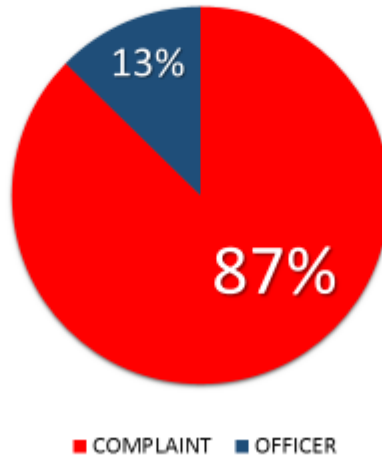
Common Themes not Addressed in Questionnaire:

- Consider different rule applications for different neighborhoods based on availability of garages/driveways
- Rule is not consistent with City's multimodal vision
- Consider applying rule only to individuals without City sticker
- Individuals with more than one or two vehicles but no off-street parking present issues
- Common response of moving a vehicle to another spot on the same block doesn't help solve anything

Attachment 2 – Enforcement Data Analysis

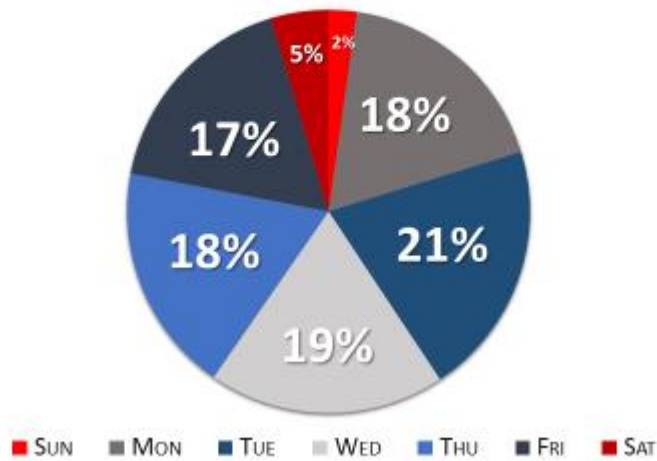
CITIZEN INITIATED REPORTS VS. OFFICER INITIATED REPORTS

(n = 7,520)



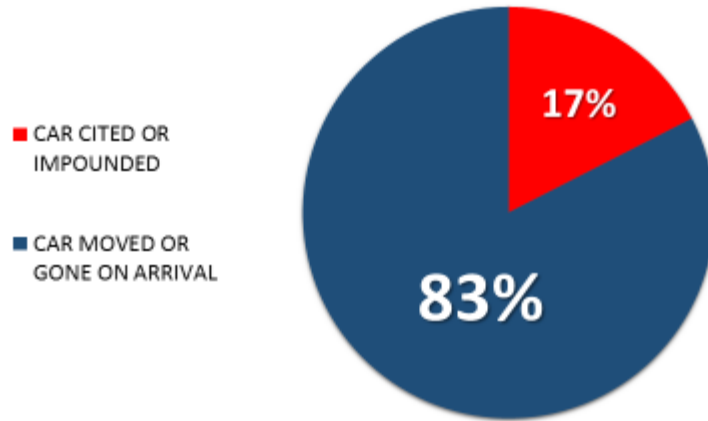
CITIZEN-INITIATED COMPLAINTS BY DAY

(n = 6,454)



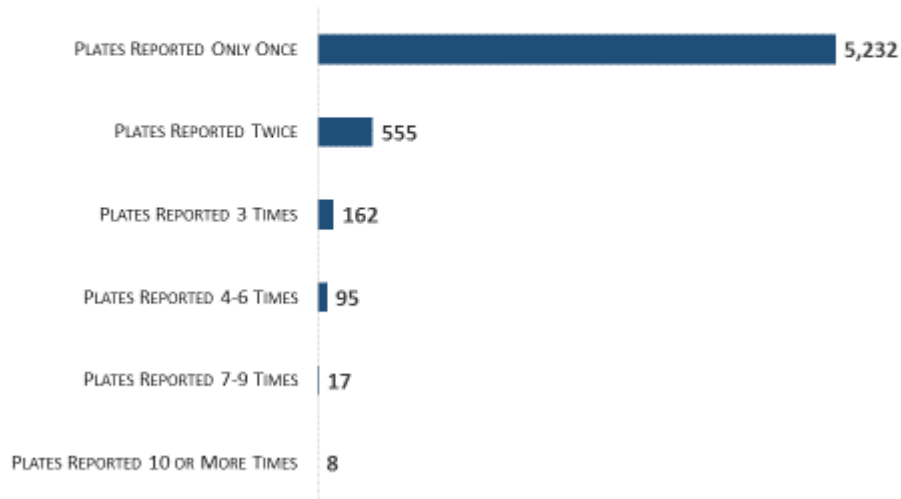
REPORT RESPONSES

(n = 7,520)

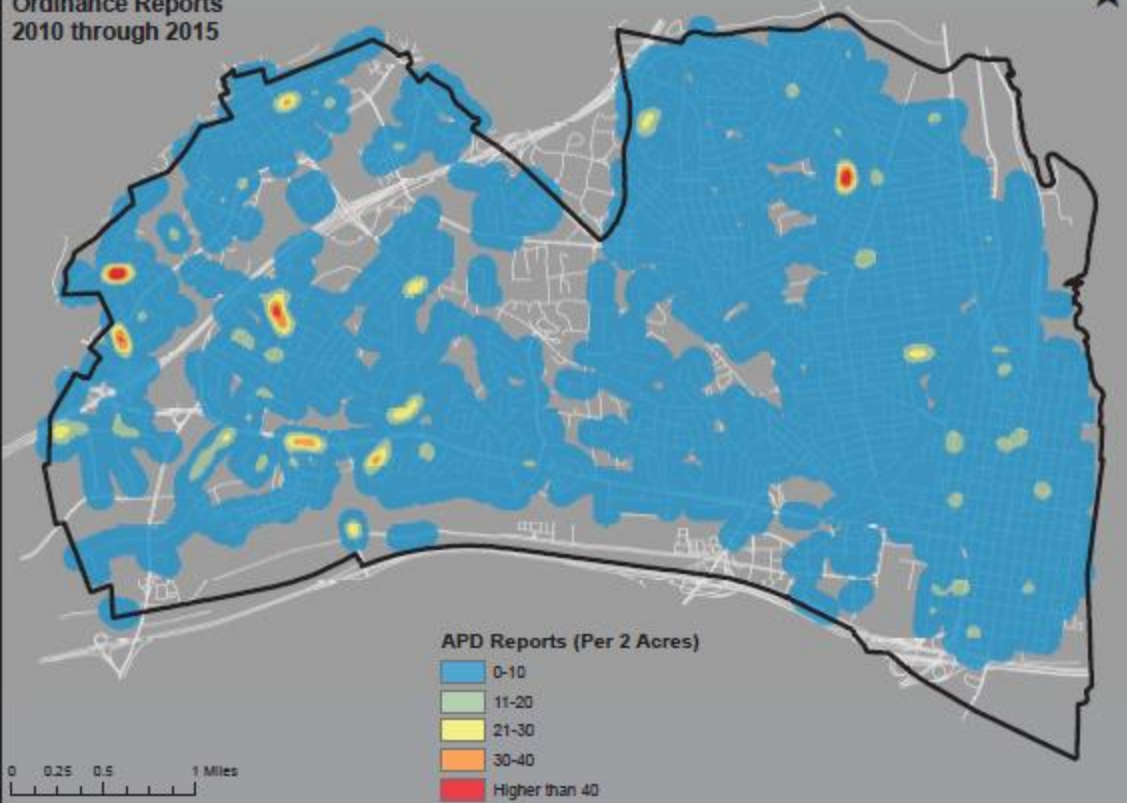


REPEAT OFFENDERS

AVERAGE = 1.24 REPORTS PER PLATE
MAXIMUM = 23 REPORTS FOR A SINGLE PLATE



Density of 72 Hour
Ordinance Reports
2010 through 2015



Attachment 3 – Proposed Code Amendments

Sec. 10-4-8 - Parking for more than 72 continuous hours.

Unless otherwise controlled by an official sign, the parking of any vehicle in the same place on the streets of the City for more than 72 hours is prohibited; provided that this prohibition shall not apply to the parking of a vehicle in the same place on the streets of the City on Saturday, Sunday and holidays-, **or any vehicle provided a 72-hour parking rule exemption through the provision of 10-4-8(a).**

(a) Exemption. A 72-hour parking rule exemption may be provided to residents by the Alexandria Police Department in coordination with the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services pursuant to the regulations detailed in 10-4-8b. If granted, a 72-hour parking rule exemption will not supersede any posted signage. All hourly restrictions otherwise applicable to a parked vehicle remain subject to enforcement. The provisions of subsection 10-4-8a and 10-4-8b shall expire twelve months after the date of the initial approval of this provision.

(b) Exemption regulations.

1. **Exemptions shall only be granted to vehicles registered with the City of Alexandria.**
2. **Exemptions may not be transferred between vehicles.**
3. **Each exemption may be granted for a maximum of two weeks.**
4. **Vehicles may be granted a maximum of four exemptions per year.**
5. **Vehicles may be granted no more than two contiguous exemptions.**
6. **Vehicles will only be permitted to park within one-eighth mile of their place of residence. Vehicles granted exemptions found parking beyond this maximum radius will be subject to enforcement.**
7. **The Department of Transportation and Environmental Services and the Alexandria Police Department retain the right to move and store vehicles when necessary due to street maintenance, in cases of emergency, or as otherwise provided by law.**