



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Montré D. Freeman, City Manager
J Phillip Webster, Chief of Police
James E. Avens, Jr., Deputy Chief of Police

Date: March 22, 2024

Reference: Consideration – Hold a Public Hearing - Street Parking in Elizabeth City

BACKGROUND:

On February 26, 2024, the City Council was briefed on parking concerns in the City and shortfalls in ordinance identified by the Police Department. The ECPD proposed ordinance changes and additions to address some of these issues, particularly concerns related to parking in multiple spaces and storing detached trailers on a city street.

ANALYSIS:

The Police Department presented the following amendments and additions to the current parking ordinance:

- A). **City Ordinance § 72.15 PARKING OF CAMPERS, TRAILERS, BOATS AND THE LIKE ON CITY STREETS PROHIBITED to read:** Storing any detached trailer or van when the towing unit has been disconnected is prohibited on a public street.

The original recommendation the ECPD brought forward contained a time limit of three hours, as that was the average limit found in several municipalities. The Council expressed concern with imposing a time limit. The ECPD conducted an additional review of ordinances and is now proposing the aforementioned language with the addition of "storing" as opposed to listing a specific number of hours.

B). City Ordinance, § 72.01 GENERAL PROHIBITION IN SPECIFIED PLACES to add Subsection (K): At or upon any on-street parking or off-street parking where the vehicle is stopped or parked in such a manner that it exceeds more than one parking space.

As these are amendments to the City's Code of Ordinances, a public hearing is required before any official changes can be made. The Council called for a hearing during their March 11, 2024 meeting, which shall be conducted on March 25, 2024.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING:

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

By motion, adopt the following amendments to the Elizabeth City Code of Ordinances - Chapter 72: Parking Rules, as follows:

1. City Ordinance § 72.15 PARKING OF CAMPERS, TRAILERS, BOATS AND THE LIKE ON CITY STREETS PROHIBITED: Storing any detached trailer or van when the towing unit has been disconnected is prohibited on a public street.
2. City Ordinance, § 72.01 GENERAL PROHIBITION IN SPECIFIED PLACES (K): At or upon any on-street parking or off-street parking where the vehicle is stopped or parked in such a manner that it exceeds more than one parking space.



**ORDINANCE #2024-03-01
TO AMEND TITLE VII: TRAFFIC CODE
CHAPTER 72: PARKING RULES
SECTION 72.15 PARKING OF CAMPERS, TRAILERS, BOATS AND THE LIKE ON CITY
STREETS PROHIBITED
AND
SECTION 72.01 GENERAL PROHIBITION IN SPECIFIED PLACES
IN THE CITY OF ELIZABETH CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that parking vehicles safely on the municipal streets is of great importance; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the Ordinance by way of the Elizabeth City Police Department is to improve the safety, health and welfare of all citizens within the City's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby adopts revisions as noted by deletion and addition in the following Chapter 72: Parking Rules, in the City of Elizabeth City Code of Ordinances:

SECTION I:

§ 72.15 PARKING OF CAMPERS, TRAILERS, BOATS AND THE LIKE ON CITY STREETS PROHIBITED.

It shall be unlawful for any person to park or cause to be parked any boat trailer or any boat and trailer or any recreational vehicle, camper or similar type of vehicle containing sleeping arrangements, excluding vans and pick-ups with attached campers, upon any public street of the city at one location for more than three hours. **Storing any detached trailer or van when the towing unit has been disconnected is prohibited on a public street.**

(2005 Code, § 46-128) (Ord. passed 5-6-1991) Penalty, see § [72.99](#)

SECTION II:

§ 72.01 GENERAL PROHIBITION IN SPECIFIED PLACES.

No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic, or in compliance with other provisions of this traffic code, or at the direction of a police officer or traffic-control device, in any of the following places:

- (A) On a sidewalk;
- (B) In front of a public or private driveway;
- (C) Within an intersection;
- (D) Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant;
- (E) On a crosswalk;
- (F) Within 20 feet of a crosswalk or intersection;
- (G) Within 30 feet of the approach to any flashing beacon, stop sign or traffic-control signal located overhead or at the side of a roadway;
- (H) Within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to any fire station and on the side of the street opposite the entrance to any fire station within 75 feet of the entrance;
- (I) On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge of the curb of a street; or
- (J) Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a street.

(K) At or upon any on-street parking or off-street parking where the vehicle is stopped or parked in such a manner that it exceeds more than one parking space.

(2005 Code, § 46-114) Penalty, see § [72.99](#)

SECTION III. CODIFICATION. The provisions of this Ordinance shall be published as appropriate in the City of Elizabeth City Code of Ordinances as soon as practicable after its adoption.

SECTION IV. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, or part of provision of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then it is expressly provided and it is the intention of the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City in passing this Ordinance that its parts shall be severable and all other parts of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby and they shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION V. All ordinances and sections of the Elizabeth City Code, and parts thereof, inconsistent herewith be and the same hereby are repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.

READ, CONSIDERED, AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Elizabeth City, North Carolina, during which a quorum was present, held on the 25th day

of March 2024.

E. Kirk Rivers
Mayor

Attest:

April Onley, NCCMC
City Clerk