



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR

March 20, 2007

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: *PK* Phil Kamlarz, City Manager

Submitted by: Claudette Ford, Director, Public Works Department

Subject: Parking Prohibition on West Frontage Road

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution prohibiting parking for all vehicles and trailers (private and commercial) from 9 PM to 6 AM every day, including weekends and holidays, on the Bay Trail Park parking area on the west side of West Frontage Road, from a point 1100 feet north of the Berkeley-Emeryville city limits to a point 500 feet north thereof.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Signs are needed to enforce the proposed parking prohibition. The installation of signs and posts will cost approximately \$800. Funds are available in the Public Works Department, Transportation Division budget (code 363-4960-431-5520).

BACKGROUND

Staff from various City departments investigated numerous complaints about conditions at the Bay Trail Park parking area. The complaints included vehicles parked over night, litter, human waste, damage to signs and graffiti. Public Works Solid Waste Division also reported containers of human waste were being disposed in the litter receptacles in this area, creating a health hazard for the workers. Health staff and police officers have conducted multiple visits to the site and have attempted to educate people contacted about health issues. The Neighborhood Services Committee looked into the possibility of prohibiting the parking of all vehicles and trailers (private and commercial) during nighttime hours at the Bay Trail Park parking area at West Frontage Road north of the Ashby Avenue Interchange (Bay Trail Park parking area).

The Bay Trail Park is located in west Berkeley, west of West Frontage Road, parallel to I-80 from Emeryville to Richmond. It provides a regional hiking and bicycling trail around the San Francisco shoreline. The trail was developed pursuant to Senate Bill 100, which mandated that the Bay Trail provide connections to existing park and recreation facilities; create links to existing and proposed transportation facilities; and be planned in such a way as to avoid adverse effects on environmentally sensitive areas. A ten-foot wide asphalt-paved walkway with adjoining gravel jogging path, native plantings, and bench seating are available and providing views of the bay and waterfront. The subject parking area is approximately 500 feet long and 17 feet wide. It provides 16 parallel parking stalls, plus two perpendicular parking stalls for people with disabilities.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Staff has visited the site several times in the past months and noted a number of vehicles, including recreational vehicles and campers, were parked overnight. Most of these vehicles had private license plates, so they were not subject to BMC Section 14.40.120, which prohibits the parking of heavy duty commercial vehicles on any street between 2 AM and 5 AM for longer than one hour. The BMC requires Council approval for the installation of "No Parking 9 PM to 6 AM" signs in the subject area. Staff expects that installing parking prohibition signs will address the overnight parking problem. Since this location is quite remote, it is unlikely that it would cause a shift of recreational vehicles and campers to other neighboring areas.

The period of 9 PM to 6 AM is proposed for the parking prohibition in view of the fact that the neighboring Bay Trail Park is open from 6 AM to 9 PM (sign posted at the park).

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Staff considered taking no action. However, the parking prohibition program could improve safety and protect the environment while requiring minimal resources to implement.

CONTACT PERSON

Peter Hillier, Assistant Public Works Director, 981-7010

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

PARKING PROHIBITIONS ON THE BAY TRAIL PARK PARKING AREA

WHEREAS, City departments investigated numerous complaints about conditions at the Bay Trail Park parking area, including vehicles parked over night, litter and human waste, and damage to signs and graffiti; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Solid Waste Division reported containers of human waste were being disposed in the litter receptacles creating a health hazard for the workers; and

WHEREAS, Health and Human Resources staff and police officers conducted multiple visits to the site to educate and warn people about health issues; and

WHEREAS, the City's Neighborhood Services Committee investigated prohibiting the parking of all vehicles during nighttime hours at the Bay Trail Park parking area; and

WHEREAS, the staff has visited the site several times in the past months and over several months noted a number of vehicles, including recreational vehicles and campers were parked overnight; and

WHEREAS, staff anticipate that parking prohibition signs will mitigate the overnight parking situation; and because the location is remote, the placement of such signs will not cause a shift of RV and camper vehicles to other neighboring areas; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Trail Park is open from 6 AM to 9 PM, the most appropriate hours for parking restrictions is 9 PM to 6 AM daily, including weekends and holidays; and

WHEREAS, funds for the signs are available in the Transportation Division budget (code 363-4960-431-552).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that parking be prohibited for all vehicles and trailers (private and commercial) from 9 PM to 6 AM every day, including weekends and holidays, on the Bay Trail Park parking area on the west side of West Frontage Road, from a point 1100 feet north of the Berkeley-Emeryville city limits to a point 500 feet north thereof.

