



<b>TRANSMITTAL MEMORANDUM</b>
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**TO:** The Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Lacey G. Simpson, Acting City Manager

**DATE:** May 11, 2022

**RE:** **Parking Constraints for Residents – Park Avenue**

At the City Council meeting of May 5, 2022, Councilmember Bradberry requested a future agenda item regarding parking constraints for residents living along Park Avenue. The request was in response to recent concerns expressed to the City Council by residents of this neighborhood who find the available parking to be inadequate and congested for residents, particularly during the summer tourism season (please see the attached email correspondence).

Attached for City Council consideration are three (3) options developed by the Police Department to address parking constraints. While all options have advantages and disadvantages, Police Chief Walls is recommending that the City Council give consideration to Course of Action (COA) 3. This option would create resident-only parking areas along this corridor during designated hours in the evening when residents are typically at home. Parking in this area would be allowable only through a permit/window sticker program during the designated times. Enforcement of these parking areas during the evenings would be absorbed by the City's contracted towing provider after receiving a call that an unauthorized vehicle is parked in a resident-only location. If successful, COA 3 may be able to be replicated in other neighborhoods where parking is scarce and as deemed appropriate by the City Council.

The City Council should keep in mind that the Park Avenue corridor is now an area that contains multiple and at times competing uses and that appeasing all parties will prove difficult and likely at the expense of another group. Given that parking concerns in this area have been received for several years, from my perspective Chief Walls' recommended solution bears consideration and implementation on at least a trial basis to see if it adequately responds to the ongoing concerns of residents and to make adjustments as needed. In speaking with Chief Walls, implementing this approach for a 60-day period would seem to be an appropriate amount of time to gauge its success and effectiveness, especially in light of the busy summer tourism season commencing.

Staff welcomes a discussion with the City Council at the meeting of May 19, 2022 to determine if one of the presented options or modifications thereto may be the best

course of action to begin addressing the available parking concerns of residents along Park Avenue.

Chief Walls will be attending the City Council meeting of May 19, 2022 in order to address any questions that Councilmembers may have.

A motion has been prepared for City Council consideration.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the motion taking such action as determined appropriate regarding accommodating residential parking along the Park Avenue corridor.

**Recommended Motion:** I move the City Council take such action as determined appropriate regarding accommodating residential parking along the Park Avenue corridor.



**KETCHIKAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

361 Main Street  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
Phone (907) 225-6631  
Fax (907) 247-6631

**TO:** Lacey Simpson, Acting City Manager  
**FROM:** Jeffrey Walls, Police Chief  
**DATE:** **May 4, 2022**  
**RE:** **Parking Constraints for Residents**

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Mrs. Simpson,

The purpose of this memorandum is to help provide guidance and suggestions on parking concerns brought to the city by citizens along Park Avenue. After consulting with members of the community and department we came up with three possible courses of actions.

**COA 1.**

For this course of action we suggested maintaining the status quo and make no changes to the parking regulations.

***Strengths:***

- If it is not an issue for the majority of the residents than by not making any changes we are not risking a possible negative response.

***Possible oppositions:***

- Perception that there is lack of regard for the issues.
- Does not resolve the complaints from the public.
- This issue will most likely continue to grow larger and larger as tourism and population on the island grows.
- There is an opportunity for revenue that will be missed.

## **COA 2.**

For this course of action we suggest that the city do just as some of the residents have suggested.

1. Make all of Park Avenue residential parking only with one visitor pass available.
2. Require residential stickers that would change yearly. Two proofs of residency should be required to obtain stickers.
3. Marketing these changes through both social and nonsocial media will be important.

### ***Strengths:***

- This would give the residents on Park Avenue what they requested.

### ***Possible oppositions:***

- Every residential area would want the same accommodations made for their area.
- This would turn public streets into private areas.
- To enforce this it would exhaust resources without the benefit of funding coming from parking passes and towing expenses.
- Unless assigned there is a potential to not have enough parking for residents available resulting in additional complaints.
- It would require additional signage, painting and manufacturing of special parking stickers.

## **COA 3.**

For this course of action we suggest the city take the following actions.

1. Along Park Avenue, create a designated time and area clearly marked for residential parking only 6pm to 6am. From 6am to 6pm all vehicles will be allowed to park in these areas. No trailers, RV's or boats allowed in these areas. Other areas of Park Avenue will continue to be open for regular parking.
2. Allow residents to obtain a parking sticker for one vehicle and any additional vehicle will be charged the same cost as a yearly parking pass. Two proofs of residency should be required. The sticker will identify the vehicle as being a residential vehicle and allowing it to park in these areas. The color of the sticker will change each year for expiration.

3. Any business such as an apartment complex can be given one pass and any additional needs will be at the cost the city determines.

4. The city expands the towing agreement with Purdy's towing allowing them to tow any vehicle without a sticker visible starting at 6pm with a percentage of every tow going to the city.

5. No vehicles should be allowed to park on the sidewalks and on the bridges. Unfortunately there are laws already in place for these violations; however, after parking enforcement is done for the day these violations often get overlooked due to calls and other pressing issues. This would be addressed by the tow company.

6. Marketing these changes through both social and nonsocial media will be important.

***Strengths:***

- This would give definitive hours for residential parking while still allowing public access to public streets during business hours.
- Added revenue from tows and additional parking passes.
- Frees up spots that maybe over utilizing parking spots with multiple vehicles.
- Does not require additional manpower from the police department or city.
- This COA could be utilized throughout the city where residential parking is an issue.

***Possible oppositions:***

- It would require additional signage, painting and manufacturing of special parking stickers.
- It would be a change from the normal.
- Visitors would not be able to park in the designated residential parking areas (This could be adjusted to offer visitor parking passes).

We would suggest that the city take course of action 3. We also suggest using this practice not only for Park Avenue but all residential areas where parking is limited. We feel that this course of action offers the most benefits to entire community and the city.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chief Jeffrey H. Walls  
Ketchikan Police Department

## Lacey Simpson

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**From:** Abby Bradberry <abradberry18@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 3:05 PM  
**To:** Lacey Simpson  
**Subject:** Re: Park Avenue Parking

### **CAUTION: External Email**

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I will bring it up on Thursday! Thank you for letting me know!

Abby Bradberry  
816-918-1613

On May 3, 2022, at 3:03 PM, Lacey Simpson <LaceyS@city.ketchikan.ak.us> wrote:

Hi Abby,

I can't recall if I let you know that Councilmember Flora was also approached by a Park Avenue resident about these ongoing issues and if parking permits could be issued. I think he is following up with the resident (not sure if it is the same individual or a different person). In any case, this issue appears to be before us and I would ask that you request this as a future agenda item so staff can dig into this, prepare some information and present options for the City Council's consideration.

Thank you,  
Lacey

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**From:** Abby Bradberry <abradberry18@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 3, 2022 12:59 PM  
**To:** Lacey Simpson <LaceyS@City.Ketchikan.Ak.Us>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Park Avenue Parking

### **CAUTION: External Email**

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Hi Lacey,

I received this email from a resident that lives in park avenue with some ideas for the parking situation that seems to be getting worse. Just wanted to pass it along because some of them I think might work.

Abby Bradberry  
816-918-1613

Begin forwarded message:

**Subject: Park Avenue Parking**

Here are my initial thoughts, I will get more information from the Borough

I am speaking for myself as a resident of Park Avenue, and not in my professional role.

Parking on the Park Avenue corridor has been challenging, but is especially challenging during the tourism season.

Here is what I know:

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- Parking is allowed, or has been, during the winter months on the bridge overlooking the salmon ladder.
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- There is an issue with the Ketchikan Apartments in which they will pull vehicles up onto the sidewalk
- directly in front of the property—greatly diminishing visibility as cars come around the curve. This presents a huge safety hazard for pedestrians and drivers alike.
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- All of the properties upland and some on the street level do not have access to off-street parking.
- This extends from Married Man’s Trail to the entrance to Venetia Way.
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- Parking on Harris Street is not an option, as many of the residents there have put up seemingly
- legal Tow Away signs, thus making those spots impossible.
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- From April 15-October 1st, the Bridge area is not available, losing 5 parking spots for a typical
- sedan-sized vehicle. There are also intermittent visitors to the licensed business “Salon Park Avenue”--(they are generally in and out within an hour.)
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- Three years ago, we had a problem with overnight campers on the street, and that was dealt with.
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- Two residents that I know of, have secured paid spots at the American Legion, and do actively park there.
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- The Ketchikan Apartment complex is a property that indeed serves its purpose as a transitional housing facility with affordable rent. However, at this time, there are a minimum of 4-5 of their residents parking additional vehicles on Park Avenue.
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- Is there not a Borough Code that requires such properties like the Ketchikan Apartments to have available off-street parking? How is this rectified?
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- I have heard that the tour bus companies are now looking to expand the footprint of the “no parking” area—effectively doubling the no-parking zone.
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**I would like to propose that the City of Ketchikan offer the PROPERTY OWNERS of Park Avenue, upon proof of residency, a parking permit. One vehicle per household, for a 24 hour period.**

The permit should be hung on their dashboard.

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**Status of Recruitment Efforts for Vacant Department Head/Division Manager Positions**

Acting City Manager Simpson provided for Council consideration a summary of the recruitment efforts for the three management-level positions currently vacant within General Government and Ketchikan Public Utilities as of April 21, 2022.

**Princess Cruises Crown Princess Schedule Change for the 2022 Cruise Ship Season**

Acting City Manager Simpson attached a memorandum from Port & Harbors Director Verfaillie for Council review regarding canceled calls at the Port of Ketchikan for the Princess Cruises *Crown Princess* vessel from May 12 through August 4, 2022.

**K.P.U. MANAGER'S REPORT** – None

**CITY CLERK'S FILE** – None

**CITY ATTORNEY'S FILE** – None

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Councilmember Bradberry requested a future agenda item regarding the parking issue on Park Avenue and Harris Street. She informed the residents in the area have given staff several different scenarios to alleviate this issue.

Mayor Kiffer asked for a show of four hands in support of Councilmember Bradberry's request, and at least four hands were shown.

Councilmember Bradberry said in regards to the opioid presentation tonight, she would like to move forward with sharing the KWC's information with the community through the City's resources.

Acting City Manager Simpson said this is a low involvement and low cost to staff, and if there is direction from the Council for staff to work with the KWC to share posts, she didn't feel that was a big ask.

Mayor Kiffer asked the Council for four hands to direct staff to work with KWC in regards to sharing their posts on the City's various media sites, and at least four hands were shown.

Councilmember Bradberry said she would like to see as a future agenda item in regards to the Dock Vendor Program because of the significant changes and reduction of passengers for this season. She suggested maybe we could look at what we did last year.

Acting City Manager Simpson explained the process used for the reduced 2021 cruise season in regards to how the Dock Vendor Program worked.

Mayor Kiffer said we should first reach out to the lines to see if they will give us passenger numbers. He said we need to keep in mind, in regards to our contracts, some of these things are out of our control, or we may want to consider managing this program differently in the future.

Councilmember Kistler reminded the Council that we waited to put this program out for bid, because we didn't know the number of ships, and as self-employed companies, you have to expect things to happen.