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# SALT LAKE CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

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**DATE:** October 28, 2005

**SUBJECT:** **Parking Near Mailboxes**

**AFFECTED COUNCIL DISTRICTS:** Citywide

**STAFF REPORT BY:** Marge Harvey

**ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT. AND CONTACT PERSON:** Mayor's Office  
Sam Guevara, Rick Graham, Louis Zunguze, Larry Spendlove, Tim Harpst, Laurie Dillion

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## KEY ELEMENTS:

1. At a recent Westpointe Community Council meeting a resident who lives near a park stated that people frequently park in front of his house and many times his mail is not delivered because cars block access to his mail box located in the park strip.
2. The City does not have an ordinance restricting parking in front of mail boxes. This is not a problem in much of the city because mail is delivered to a box on the porch or to secured boxes in a group.
3. To address this issue, the Administration is proposing an amendment to Section 12.56.440, Salt Lake City Code pertaining to stopping or parking in certain prohibited areas. The change will be the addition of item A.3. which will prohibit parking "**within ten feet of a private driveway on Monday through Saturday (except holidays) between 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M. when a mailbox is located within five feet of such a driveway**". (See attached ordinance.) It will only apply for mail boxes in the parking strip. The Administration did not want to eliminate street parking completely so chose to extend the no parking 5' feet from a driveway to 10' if the mailbox is located within 5' of the driveway.
4. The public will be notified via press release, notice to community councils and SLCTV Channel 17. Warnings will be issued during the first several weeks by placing a notice and copy of the ordinance on the windshield of violators.
5. The fine is \$17 if paid within 10 days. Hearing officers make determination on appeals on a case-by-case basis and the decision is at the discretion of the hearing officer. Generally the fine is reduced in half if the person does not have a history of a similar parking violation.

## OPTIONS:

1. Forward to a formal City Council meeting
  2. Request additional information.
  3. Decline consideration of the ordinance.
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Re: Item C1 - Public Hearing to amend an ordinance relating to parking near mail boxes.

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS,**

This issue significantly impacts Council District 1, but Council Member Christensen is out of town on Council business and not able to attend the Public Hearing tonight, December 8.

**Please consider a motion to close the hearing and refer this issue to December 13 for consideration.**

Thank you.

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The following information was provided for the Work Session and is provided again for your reference.

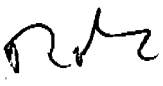
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COUNCIL TRANSMITTAL

OCT 19 2005

**TO:** Rocky J. Fluhart   
Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** October 17, 2005

**FROM:** Sam Guevara,  
Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

**SUBJECT:** Amendment to Parking Ordinance, Regarding Parking Near Mailboxes

**STAFF CONTACT:**

Sam Guevara  
Mayor's Office  
535-7732

Larry Spendlove  
City Attorney's Office  
535-7788

**DOCUMENT TYPE:** Ordinance Revision

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the ordinance amendment.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** No budget impact is expected.

**BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:** The issue of people parking a vehicle in front of a residential mailbox was raised in a Westpointe Community Council meeting. A citizen reported frequently vehicles would block the US Postal Service access to his mailbox located in the parking strip. A review of City ordinances revealed that there were no specific restrictions on parking in front of a mailbox. The proposed change prohibits parking within 10 feet of a private driveway on Mondays through Saturdays (except holidays) between 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M., when a mailbox is located within five feet (5') of such driveway. The prohibition of parking within 5 feet of a private driveway has been in the ordinance previously, and will not change.

This ordinance is expected to impact only a few residential areas. Most areas in Salt Lake City do not have mailboxes on the parking strip. The Compliance Division, which includes the parking enforcement program, will enforce this ordinance, but will allow a grace period of about two weeks. During this time, if a violation is seen, the officer will place a copy of the new ordinance on the vehicle to inform the driver of the new requirement.

**PUBLIC PROCESS:** This issue was raised at a Community Council meeting. To inform residents of the change, a news release will be issued. In addition, the change will be discussed at the monthly meeting of the Community Council chairs, and will be

publicized in the newsletter and e-mails to the Community Councils. The information will also be aired on SLCTV Channel 17.

SALT LAKE CITY ORDINANCE  
No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 2005  
(Prohibiting parking near mailboxes)

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 12.56.440, *SALT LAKE CITY CODE*,  
RELATING TO STOPPING OR PARKING - PROHIBITED IN CERTAIN AREAS.

Be it ordained by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah:

SECTION 1. That Section 12.56.440, *Salt Lake City Code*, pertaining to stopping or parking prohibited in certain areas be, and the same hereby is, amended to read as follows:

**12.56.440 Stopping Or Parking-Prohibited In Certain Areas:**

A. No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or the directions of a police officer or traffic control device, in any of the following places:

1. On a sidewalk area;
2. In front or within five feet (5') of a private driveway;
3. Within ten feet (10') of a private driveway, on Mondays through Saturdays

(except holidays) between 7:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M., when a mailbox is located within five feet (5') of such driveway.

43. Within an intersection;

54. Within five feet (5') of a fire hydrant, as measured in both directions along the street or highway curb line from the line extending from the center of the hydrant to the curb line at its nearest point;

65. On a crosswalk;

76. Within twenty feet (20') of a crosswalk at an intersection;

87. Within thirty feet (30') upon the approach of any flashing beacon or traffic control device located at the side of a roadway;

98. Between a safety zone and the adjacent curb, or within thirty feet (30') of points on the curb immediately opposite the ends of a safety zone, unless authorized signs or markings indicate a different length;

109. Within fifty feet (50') of the nearest rail of a railroad crossing;

1140. Within twenty feet (20') of the driveway entrance to any fire station, and on the side of a street opposite the entrance when properly signposted;

1211. Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction, when stopping, standing or parking would obstruct or be hazardous to traffic;

1312. Upon any bridge or other elevated structure upon a street, or within a street tunnel or underpass;

1413. At any place where official signs or traffic markings prohibit stopping, standing or parking;

1514. At any place in any public park, playground or grounds of any public building other than on the roads or parking lots provided for public parking and then only in accordance with provisions of any officially installed signs, such signs to be installed by the city transportation engineer, pursuant to the authority granted in section 12.08.080 of this title, or its successor;

1615. On any footpath in any park or playground;

1716. Within a fire lane as designated and marked in accordance with the provisions of section 18.44.080 of this code, or its successor, whether on public or private property;

1817. On any median or island, or on any dividing section, as defined in section 12.44.110 of this title, or its successor; or

1918. Within fifteen feet (15') of the nearest rail of any light rail track or other railroad track whether on public or private property.

B. No person shall move a vehicle under such person's control into any such prohibited area, or upon any area not designated for vehicular travel or parking.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon the date of its first publication.

Passed by the City Council of Salt Lake City, Utah this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

Transmitted to Mayor on \_\_\_\_\_.

Mayor's Action: \_\_\_\_\_ Approved. \_\_\_\_\_ Vetoed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHIEF DEPUTY CITY RECORDER

(SEAL)

Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_ of 2005.

Published: \_\_\_\_\_.