



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: March 25, 2003
To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair,
Transportation & Public Works Committee
Referral to: None

Subject: Temporary removal of parking restrictions near Southwest High School to test a potential solution to the ongoing parking problem around the school.

Recommendation:

1. Conduct a test for new parking arrangements around Southwest High School for the remainder of this school year and begin the test as soon as possible.
2. Direct the Department of Public Works to make temporary signing changes required to evaluate the parking test around Southwest High School as follows:

**Remove: No Parking, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM During School Days,
Westerly side of Beard Avenue S between the limits of
47th Street W and 48th Street W.**

**No Parking, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM During School Days,
Easterly side of Chowen Avenue S between the limits of
47th Street W and 48th Street W.**

**No Parking, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM During School Days,
Both sides of 47th Street W between the limits of
Chowen Avenue S and Drew Avenue S.**

**Critical Parking Area #24, No Parking 7:00 AM – 9:00 PM During
School Days Except by permit
Westerly side of Chowen Avenue S between the limits of
46th Street W and 48th Street W.**

**Establish: No Parking Except Buses 6:00 AM – 4:00 PM School Days
Westerly side of Abbott Avenue S between the limits of
46th Street W and 47th Street W.**

**No Parking Except Buses 6:00 AM – 4:00 PM School Days
Northerly side of 47th Street W between the limits of
Abbott Avenue S and Chowen Avenue S.**

**No Parking Except Buses 6:00 AM – 4:00 PM School Days
Southerly side of 46th Street W between the limits of
Beard Avenue S and Chowen Avenue S.**

**No Parking Except Buses 6:00 AM – 4:00 PM School Days
Westerly side of Abbott Avenue S beginning 319 ft south of the
southerly curblineline of 46th Street W and extending to 47th Street W**

Previous Directives: None

Prepared or Submitted by: Timothy Drew, Graduate Engineer, 673-2152

Approved: Klara A. Fabry, Director of Public Works

By: _____
Greg Finstad, P.E., Director, Transportation and Parking Services

Presenters in Committee: Timothy Drew

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget

Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain):

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background information:

Each year, because of parking issues related to Southwest High School, the City receives requests for a couple additional blocks around the school to be designated no parking or critical parking. Some of these requests date back 30 years and were installed for reasons other than school concerns (such as the Qwest building nearby had employees parking in the neighborhood). As each new block receives parking restrictions, others want them because the volume of parking on their block grows. Restricting parking one block at a time is not an effective solution to this problem. Because there are parking restrictions on some blocks, people are forced to park on fewer streets around Southwest High School. This has only intensified the problem in the neighborhood.

After several meetings with residents who live near the school, school officials, students, and City staff, a solution to be tested was agreed upon. The solution would require all parking restrictions in the neighborhood to be removed. This would also include streets directly bordering the school whenever possible. At the same time, the students of the High school would be notified to "spread out" the parking as much as possible. With these adjustments four blocks would be opened up for parking during the school day and additionally, the blocks bordering the school will open up after 4:00 PM for Community Ed and special occasions at the school. The group also agreed that the test should last the remainder of this school year and should be evaluated over the summer. The school board has been notified and is in agreement with the changes.

Attachment: 2 Maps of area around Southwest High School (before and after plan)

cc: Council Member Barret Lane, Ward 13
Jon Wertjes, Transportation and Parking Services