



Legislation Text

File #: 160684., **Version:** 1

Restricted Decal Parking Area Zone 9 Expansion (B)

This item is a request to expand the existing Zone 9 restricted decal parking area to cover the area to the west side of SW 5th Terrace between West University Avenue and SW 2nd Avenue. The existing Zone 9 currently stops on SW 6th Street, one block to the west.

A business property owner on SW 5th Terrace requested the City of Gainesville complete a feasibility study to implement decal parking in the blocks requested. The request was due to the lack of available parking in the immediate area. The request also included implementing spaces for short term or customer use parking. Zone 9 is a neighborhood decal parking zone that is established for Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

The Public Works Department Parking Operations staff conducted a study in accordance with the Gainesville Code of Ordinances, Chapter 26, Section 26-117, Criteria and Procedures for Establishing Controlled Vehicular Parking Areas. The ordinance requires that the parking occupancy rate be more than 50%. The study revealed that the occupancy rate for this area was greater than 86%. Based upon the results, the two property owners located in the proposed area were mailed ballots and both ballots were returned in favor of the expansion. The next step will be for the City Commission to hold a public hearing. A public notice was advertised and the registered property owners in the affected area have been noticed. The expansion can be implemented if, after the public hearing, the City Commission finds that the area meets the requirements of Chapter 26, Section 26-117 (a) of the Code of Ordinances and approves the expansion to include the studied area.

The existing parking spaces are all located on the west side of SW 5th Terrace, so the study did not include the east side of the street. The Continuum (425 W. University Ave) was not included in the study either because there is a five-level parking garage for the residents and visitors that is free for their use. There are three separate bays of parking in the studied area: 11 spaces, 4 spaces and 19 spaces. For best use, staff recommends the 11 and 19 space bays be designated Zone 9 decal parking and the 4 spaces in-between designated as two-hour time limited for visitor and customer use in the area.

Funding in the amount of \$300 is available in the Public Works operating budget for materials and supplies.

The City Commission: 1) hold a public hearing; 2) consider the findings of the study, the recommendation of the City Manager, the results of the vote of the property owners, and any other information the Commission deems relevant; and 3) decide whether to approve the expansion of Zone 9.