

Parking

On-street parking is generally treated differently on local residential streets than on arterial streets. For information about arterials, please see the "Parking on Arterials" Fact Sheet.

On-Street Parking on Residential Streets

Public parking is normally permitted on local residential streets. Residents who live on streets near facilities which draw large volumes of traffic, can request "resident parking only" or, in some cases, a "resident permit parking" arrangement.

"Resident parking only" is a block-by-block approach to dealing with local parking problems. Signs read "No parking, except residents of..." RPO zones are installed on a block at the request of residents, provided there is a significant parking problem on their block. Residents must phone Parking Enforcement when they are aware of a violation on their block. There are hundreds of these zones in the city, most of which are on blocks near small businesses, schools, or parks.

"Resident permit parking" is the other type of residential parking restriction. These types of zones are reserved for larger parking problems, generally spanning at least ten to twelve blocks, such as around Vancouver General Hospital, in the West End, and around various SkyTrain stations. Once the system is in place, a resident must purchase a parking permit once a year. These zones are automatically enforced by Parking Enforcement because they can check each vehicle for a valid permit.

In Riley Park-South Cambie (RPSC), there are a number of "Resident parking only" areas, and one "Resident permit parking" area: the Vancouver General Hospital Resident Permit Zone. In RPSC, this zone encompasses portions of 17th and 18th

Avenues. This area is surrounded by RPO zones.

Off Street Parking Requirements

When new developments are built, or when developments change from one type of use to another, the City's Parking By-law specifies the off-street parking required.

Parking requirements vary with the zoning, and the type and size of developments. The intent is to provide a reasonable level of service to site users and prevent adding excessive loads on adjacent on-street parking.

Examples of parking requirements are:

- For most single-family houses, houses with suites, and duplexes, a minimum of 1 parking space for each dwelling unit. The maximum number of spaces is set according to site width, ranging from 2 spaces for 33' sites to 5 spaces for 50' sites (or sites greater than 50' wide)
- For most office and retail uses, a minimum of 1 space for each 100 square metres of gross floor area, up to 300 square metres, and 1 additional space for each additional 50 square metres of gross floor area
- For multi-residential developments, requirements range typically from 1.0 to 1.5 parking spaces per dwelling unit, with a maximum of 2.2 spaces per unit..

Car Ownership

The parking for multi-unit residential developments of 1.0 to 2.2 stalls per dwelling unit reflects the city's average car ownership rate of 1 to 2 vehicles per dwelling (depending on location and housing type). A small overage in the parking requirement provides for visitor parking.