

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES STAFF REPORT

For Planning Commission Meeting of November 7, 2012

SUBJECT: Amendments to Chapter 59 (Off-Street Parking), Section 5:166 to Allow Temporary Parking of Motor Vehicles in the Front Open Space as Part of a Special Event

PROPOSED CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MOTION

The Ann Arbor City Planning Commission hereby recommends that the Mayor and City Council approve amendments to Chapter 59 (Off-Street Parking), Section 5:166 to Allow Temporary Parking of Motor Vehicles in the Front Open Space as Part of a Special Event.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the proposed amendments to City Code be **approved**. The changes will provide flexibility for City Council to allow temporary front open space parking by resolution for special events other than University of Michigan football games and the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair.

BACKGROUND

Over the past few years, a number of special events have been scheduled at Michigan Stadium that have drawn large crowds. The parking demand for these events is similar to that generated by University of Michigan home football games, however, the Off-Street Parking Ordinance's exception from the prohibition on "front open space" parking on football game days does not apply to these events.

The Off-Street Parking Ordinance prohibits parking in the "front open space" of private property. The front open space is defined as:

The area enclosed by the lot lines, the street right-of-way line and the established line of setback. Established line of setback shall be a line, drawn parallel to the street, extending from the point at which a principal building is closest to the street outward to the lot lines. All area directly in front of any part of the principal building shall also be considered to be in front of the established line of setback.

Typically, vehicles parked in the front open space, other than on a legal parking lot or driveway, may be ticketed. However, Chapter 59 includes an exception that allows parking in the front open space on football game days and by permit during the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair. These exceptions have provided for temporary parking relief in the areas of these major special events.

The proposed amendment to Section 5:166, Use of Off-Street Parking Facilities, would allow Council to set "special event dates" for temporary front open space parking to address parking

demand for events such as hockey games in Michigan Stadium. The amendment would incorporate the front open space parking exception for the Ann Arbor Street Area Fair into the annual Art Fair resolution, eliminating the requirement for obtaining permits. The permit process referenced in the current code was never implemented, and staff believes such a requirement would have limited benefit since staff is not available to do parking.

Prepared by: Wendy Rampson

Reviewed by: Jill Thacher

Attachment: November 2, 2012 Draft Amendments to Chapter 59 (Off-Street Parking),
Section 5:166

c: City Attorney
Community Services
Community Standards

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 59 (OFF-STREET PARKING)
TO ALLOW TEMPORARY PARKING OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE FRONT OPEN SPACE
AS PART OF A SPECIAL EVENT

The City of Ann Arbor Ordains:

Section 1. That Section 5:166 of Chapter 59 of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor be amended to read as follows:

5:166. - Use of off-street parking facilities.

(1) No person shall park a motor vehicle in the front open space, except on the driveway, in a structure or within an approved parking space or lot.

(a) This subsection shall not be applicable on those days when University of Michigan football games or scrimmages are played in The University of Michigan stadium.

(b) The City Council may, by resolution, designate special event dates on which this prohibition does not apply in order to allow temporary parking of motor vehicles in the front open space. The special event date(s) shall be included in the resolution, as well as the special event boundaries, conditions and standards that will apply, if any, to preserve public safety and the attractive appearance of the city. Failure to comply with the conditions set forth in the resolution shall be a violation of this Ordinance section.

~~It shall also be inapplicable to persons who have obtained a permit issued by the city administrator for parking in the front open space during the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair. Such permits shall be issued in accordance with regulations adopted by the city council for the purpose of ensuring public safety and preserving the attractive appearance of the city.~~

(2) No person shall obstruct the use of a required off-street parking space or bicycle parking space by storing objects, structures or vehicles that are inoperative, unregistered or for sale.

(3) In residential zones, trailers, boats, campers and similar vehicles must be stored in a structure, on a driveway or in a location other than the front open space.

(4) In residential zones, no person shall park more than 2 commercially-licensed vehicles in the open on the vehicle owner's private property or within 500 feet of the property on a public street.

(5) In residential zones, no person shall park in any off-street parking space any vehicle over 22 feet long or a commercial vehicle licensed for an empty weight of more than 5,500 pounds.

Section 2. That this Ordinance shall take effect on the tenth day following legal publication.