

City of Alameda

Public Works Department

Policy for Residential Disabled Parking Zones (RDPZ)

POLICY

The RDPZ Program is intended to assist drivers with mobility impairments who cannot otherwise gain ready access to their residence. This policy has been established to ensure that:

1. RDPZ's are installed where there is a demonstrated and documented need for a parking space designated for persons with disabilities on the residential street where they live, and
2. There are no other reasonable and feasible parking alternative available outside of the public right-of-way.

In general, a RDPZ consists of a blue painted curb, 18 to 22 feet long, a posted sign, and an international symbol of accessibility marking in the roadway. The City does not install RDPZ's for paratransit pick-up and/or drop-off. The location of the requested RDPZ will be in front of the applicant's residence. It is not a personal parking space, and any motorist with a valid disabled placard may legally use the parking space. In addition, vehicles parked in the RDPZ are not exempt from (A) posted parking restrictions, such as street sweeping hours, and (B) other pertinent parking restrictions/prohibitions as stated in the California Vehicle Code and Alameda Municipal Code. Motorists, who park their vehicles in violation, may be cited.

A RDPZ is created through a revocable permit, and the City reserves the right to remove the RDPZ if it is determined to be in the best interest of the public to do so.

PROCEDURE

The resident shall submit a completed RDPZ application form to the City of Alameda Public Works Department. Staff will review the application for completeness and determine if it is eligible for review. To be eligible, the applicant shall submit the following documents:

1. A signed letter from a qualified physician stating that the applicant has a **long-term medical disability that makes it difficult to walk distances longer than 100 feet**, such as from the applicant's residence to a vehicle parked farther than immediately in front of the applicant's residence.
2. Written documentation, with photographs, demonstrating that there is no driveway, off-street parking area, or garage on site that can be used by the applicant to provide for parking within the medical restriction noted in number 1.
3. A copy of the applicant's current and valid disabled parking permit issued by the DMV.
4. A copy of the applicant's current and valid driver's license.
5. A copy of the applicant's current and valid vehicle registration with the applicant's name and current residence listed.
6. If the applicant is not the property owner, written approval from the property owner, of record, accepting the installation of a RDPZ directly in front of the property.

7. A signed **Liability Waiver and General Release of All Claims**. If applicant is not the property owner, the property owner's approval of the Liability Waiver and General Release of All Claims will also be required.

Additionally, the application may not be eligible if any of the following criteria are met. This determination may occur at any time during the process.


- A. There is an existing RDPZ on the same block, on either side of the block, within 100 feet of the applicant's address.
- B. Through engineering judgment, staff determines that the parking use in the area would make it significantly difficult for the applicant to use the RDPZ. This may include any factor that would increase the probability of motorists, with a valid disabled parking placard, parking in the RDPZ, such as nearby multi-unit properties or health facilities. Although this would be a legal use of the parking space, this would defeat the purpose of providing the improvement and it would leave the original concern unaddressed.

If the application is complete and eligible for review, staff will:

1. Conduct a field review of the location,
2. Send notices to all properties within 300 feet of the requested RDPZ in order to collect comments on the request,
3. Review the responses,
4. Determine a final recommendation,
5. And send a notice announcing the final recommendation. The notice will also provide information on how to appeal that decision. Please see the Alameda Municipal Code for additional information regarding the appeal process.

Meeting the requirements listed in this policy and the verification of eligibility may not guarantee the approval of a request. If the RDPZ is approved, the City will install the RDPZ at no cost to the applicant. Once installed, the City will send a notice once a year to the applicant inquiring about the validity of the RDPZ. In order to have the RDPZ maintained, the applicant must respond and verify that they are still living at the address on their application and have a current DMV issued disabled parking permit. Otherwise, the City will remove the RDPZ, as necessary. RDPZ's are created through revocable permits. The City reserves the right to remove a RDPZ if it is determined to be in the best interest of the public to do so.

Approved:



Liam Garland
Public Works Director

2/21/18

Date