



Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Ward and Members of the City Council

**THROUGH:** Richard Thompson, Interim City Manager

**FROM:** Rod Uyeda, Chief of Police  
Derrick Abell, Captain  
Andy Harrod, Lieutenant  
Julie Dahlgren, Management Analyst

**DATE:** March 2, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Discussion of Issues Associated with Oversized Vehicle Parking and Consideration of Alternatives Including Referring the Concept of Creating an Oversized Vehicle Parking Ordinance and Permit Program to the PPIC for Review and Recommendation.

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council refer the concept of creating an oversized vehicle parking ordinance and permit program to PPIC for review and recommendation.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

Completion of the oversized vehicle parking study will be funded through existing Department operating budgets. Depending on the course of action selected, there may be potential increases in general fund revenue, as well as additional costs for administration of the various programs or measures proposed. These revenues and costs will be evaluated and reported back to City Council at the conclusion of the study.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The City Council, Police Department, and other members of City staff receive complaints about traffic and parking each year. The presence of oversized/recreational vehicles (including motorhomes, campers, boats, and trailers) is a recurring issue among these complaints. Concerns include safety issues, reducing visibility of drivers when backing out of driveways and entering intersections, child safety in reference to oversized vehicles parked near schools, loss of multiple parking spaces, and visual blight.

As part of the City Council Work Plan for FY 2009/2010, Council requested that staff study the feasibility and impact of prohibiting parking for "oversized vehicles" including RVs, trailers and boats throughout the City.

**DISCUSSION:**

Currently, existing MBMC regulations provide the City with the following enforcement capabilities regarding the parking of oversized/recreational vehicles and non-motorized vehicles upon City streets.

- MBMC 14.36.060 prohibits the use of streets for storage of vehicles; no vehicle shall be parked on any street or alley for more than 72 consecutive hours.
- MBMC 14.36.160 prohibits overnight camping; it is unlawful for a person to use or occupy any vehicle for human habitation, including but not limited to sleeping or eating on any street, alley, or parking lot between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- MBMC 5.28.130 prohibits trailers and camp cars from being parked on City streets for more than 24 consecutive hours. Camp car and or/trailer is defined as a unit used for living, sleeping, or business purposes which is equipped with wheels or similar devices used for the purpose of transporting the unit from place to place.

These municipal codes are difficult to enforce and require constant monitoring by Police staff to ensure that the vehicles are not exceeding the designated time limits. Vehicle owners are often aware of the 72-hour grace period and move the vehicle within that time period, sometimes only a few feet, and other times to the opposite side of the street or around the corner.

According to California Vehicle Code 22507, "local authorities may, by ordinance or resolution, prohibit or restrict the stopping, parking, or standing of vehicles...on certain streets or highways, or portions thereof, during all or certain hours of the day." Several cities in the Los Angeles area have implemented stricter regulations for oversized vehicles, including implementation of permit programs.

To gain a better understanding of the programs currently in place across the County, the Police Department conducted a survey of oversized vehicle parking restrictions implemented by other Los Angeles County cities. Of the 42 respondents, 30 cities have a way of preventing RV storage on city streets that goes beyond the code prohibiting seventy-two hour consecutive street parking. Of those 30 cities, 22 have implemented some form of RV parking permit programs, 7 do not allow overnight RV parking (typically from 2:00 a.m. – 5:00 a.m.) with very few exceptions, and one city limits RV street parking to only two hours.

| <b>Cities With RV Parking Permit Programs</b>   |  |
|---|--|
| Absolutely No RV Parking At Any Time Without a Permit   | Torrance, Rancho Palos Verdes, Lakewood, Temple City, South Pasadena, Signal Hill                      |
| RV Loading/Unloading Allowed for Limited Period of Time Without Permit, Parking for Longer Period of Time Requires a Permit | Culver City, Hawthorne, Calabasas, Santa Clarita, Montebello, Lawndale, Bradbury, La Cañada Flintridge |
| Daytime RV parking Allowed Without a Permit, Permit Required for Overnight RV Parking                                       | Santa Monica, Los Angeles, Bellflower, Glendora, San Marino, Alhambra, Claremont, San Dimas            |

| <b>Cities With Parking Restrictions that Impact RVs, But No RV Permit Program</b> |  |
|---|--|
| Daytime RV Parking Allowed,<br>Absolutely No Overnight RV Parking                 | Beverly Hills, La Mirada, San Gabriel,<br>Duarte, Whittier, Cerritos, Sierra Madre |
| RV Parking Allowed for Limited Time   | Inglewood  |

The remaining respondents (El Segundo, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, La Verne, Downey, Rosemead, South El Monte, Monrovia, Compton, Artesia, Norwalk, and Palmdale) do not have ordinances prohibiting parking beyond the typical 72-hour restriction.

According to the State Department of Motor Vehicles, there are 166 Motorhomes registered to Manhattan Beach addresses. An informal study conducted by Police Department personnel and volunteers indicate that there are typically approximately 30 Motorhomes/RVs parked on Manhattan Beach streets, primarily in the areas of Pacific School, Grand View School/Sand Dune Park, Parkview Avenue/Marriot Golf Course, and Liberty Village. Of the 30 RVs found on City streets during the informal drive-by survey, all but two were registered to Manhattan Beach addresses (the two not registered in Manhattan Beach appeared to be out-of-town guests).

It is recommended that City Council refer the issue of oversized vehicle parking to the PPIC for further study and to report back to City Council. The PPIC should seek community input and consider the following issues in making their recommendation:

- What is the City's definition of an "oversized" vehicle (i.e. determined by height, width, or length, or by vehicle classification - motorhome, trailer, boat, camper, etc.)
- What parking time limits for oversized vehicles should be considered (including the possibility of overnight restrictions)
- If implementing an oversized vehicle permit program, what information will be required to obtain a permit (i.e. owner information, proof of residency, emergency contact, proof of current vehicle insurance, etc.)
- Will there be fees associated with the permit program
- Will there be a maximum number of days allowed for oversized vehicle parking
- Will permit require parking in proximity to one's residence
- Will stricter oversized vehicle parking restrictions be imposed in designated areas (i.e. around schools, or near intersections)
- How will guests with oversized vehicles be accommodated (i.e. temporary parking permits for visitors)
- What are the expected impacts to residents who own oversized/recreational vehicles
- Will non-motorized vehicles be included in the ordinance (i.e. recreational or utility trailers or boats not attached to a motorized vehicle)

The study will be coordinated by the Police Department and will require input from the City Attorney's Office, Community Development Department, Public Works Department, and the Finance Department.