

Proposed Recertification of Residential Permit Parking Program Area Q**1. Introduction**

On May 25, 1993, Title 5 of the Pittsburgh Code Chapter 549, of the Residential Parking Permit Program (R.P.P.P.), Section 549.06 was amended. This ordinance currently reads on determining whether to renew a designation as a residential parking permit area for a particular residential area, the Parking Permit Officer shall certify the continued existence of the primary impactor on which official designation was based, and certify that seventy percent of households, by petition, survey or combination thereof, still desire participation in the program. The verification process includes a City Planning Commission briefing before being submitted to City Council for approval.

2. R.P.P.P. District

The area to be recertified is Area Q, South Craig Street Area-Oakland (see map pg. 5). The district is generally bounded by Henry Street, South Neville Street, Forbes Avenue and South Craig Street.

3. Background

Area Q was approved by the City Council and the City Planning Commission on September 19, 1989. This original designation was based on the lack of legal on street parking due to the impact of parkers destined for Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Pittsburgh, the Craig Street Business District, and various other nearby institutions. The residents of the South Craig Street desired the creation of a Residential Parking Permit District to reduce the volume of non-resident parkers caused by these primary impactors.

4. Summary of Findings

Recertification is based on the findings of a (a) questionnaire, (b) parking survey, (c) analysis of primary impactors, (d) feedback from scheduled meetings and discussions with community leaders.

The following is a summary with key points highlighted:

a. QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

By sending out questionnaires, the R.P.P.P. was able to determine that the required number of Area “Q” permit holders still desired the program. Of the 62 questionnaires sent this year, 13 were returned (21%) showing that 91% (21% more than the required criteria) were still in favor of the program. The questionnaires showed that only 9% of permit holders, with an opinion, believe the program had created hardships for them, 25% found it easier or the same to park near their homes in the last year, 25% found it more difficult

- o 30% of the permit holders who had lived in the permit district prior to the program being implemented, with an opinion, found it very difficult to park near their home prior to the implementation of the program.
- o 85% of the permit holders, with an opinion, are satisfied with the boundaries of the program.
- o 83% are satisfied with hours of the program.
- o 86% are satisfied with enforcement of the program.

While there were 26 comments expressed on the questionnaire covering 19 issues, none were made by more than two respondents. Nor were there any consistent threads in the comments.

b. PARKING SURVEY RESULTS

As shown on Table A, (page 4) the total percent of spaces occupied in 1999 was 51%, with 37% being non-resident vehicles. Approximately 49% of available spaces are still left for residents to park in when before the program 90% of the spaces were utilized.

Due to the program, there has been a decrease of at least 39% spaces being occupied showing that the Residential Parking Permit Program has definitely worked for the South Craig Street, Area “Q”.

c. PRIMARY IMPACTORS

The ordinance requires us to identify that the primary impactors are still in existence. Based on the internship program and questionnaires University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University and the Craig Street Business District are still in existence.

The Department currently has interns from both the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University. They both go to meetings at the Oakland Campuses. Questionnaires came back from the residents referencing the businesses as a parking issue.

d. FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNITY

Department of City Planning staff received a letter from Dan Rossi, President of Bellefield Area Citizens Association dated June 12, 2005. It stated “One of these items that was brought to my attention at our membership meeting this month was the recertification of the Area Q Residential Permit Parking Area...We took a vote at our July 7, 2005 meeting and unanimously approved the recertification.” (Page 6)

5 RECERTIFICATION

As conclusion, our analysis has shown that, 91%, 21% more then the required criteria of 70% for inclusion into the program, are still in favor of the program. Second, the Residential Parking Permit for the South Craig Street, Area “Q”, has freed-up 51% available spaces for the residents in 1999, compared with 10% being available before implementation of the program. This is an increase of 39% more spaces available. Third, parking by commuters using the primary impactor, students and employees going to University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University and the Craig Street Business District are still impacting residential streets in the area. Fourth, the Bellefield Area Community Association voted unanimously at their July 7, 2005 meeting to approve the recertification of Area “Q”.

Because of this analysis, it is recommended that R.P.P.P. Area “Q” (South Craig Street) be recertified.