



Memorandum

CITY OF OAKLAND

CITY HALL, 1 FRANK OGAWA PLAZA, 2ND FLOOR, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

DATE: December 10, 2020

TO: City Council and Members of the Public

FROM: Council President Rebecca Kaplan and Councilmember Nikki Fortunato Bas

SUBJECT: No Parking Restrictions Between 2:00 A.M. And 6 A.M., Monday Through Sunday, on the Lake (East) Side of Lakeshore Avenue From Lake Merritt Boulevard to 1st Avenue and Establishing A Residential Parking Permit Area (“RPP”)

Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

We recommend that the City Council Adopt A Resolution Approving The Establishment Of No Parking Restrictions Between 2:00 A.M. And 6 A.M., Monday Through Sunday, on the Lake (East) Side of Lakeshore Avenue From Lake Merritt Boulevard to 1st Avenue; Allowing a Community Process To Proceed Regarding the Establishing A Residential Parking Permit Area (“RPP”), And Directing the City Administrator to Return to Council With An Ordinance Amending Oakland Municipal Code Section 10.44.050(A)(4) To Authorize The Council To Waive The Requirement That A Proposed Residential Permit Parking Area Include At Least Six Adjacent Block Fronts By Resolution.

Lake Merritt is a central gathering place for Oaklanders and visitors, and is the jewel of our city. As a regional attraction, the Lake has experienced an increased number of visitors in recent years. With the onset of COVID-19, these growing crowds have caused public health concerns as well as recurring impacts on those living in the surrounding neighborhood.

As visitors seek places to recreate and gather in these challenging times, the city must balance the public health concerns, environmental and infrastructure impacts at the park, public safety, and quality of life issues that have resulted from growing park usership at Lake Merritt.

Currently, the City's park hours of operation for Neighborhood Parks are Dawn to Dusk or 6am to 9pm. It is critical that the City encourages equitable access and responsible park usage at the Lake, and works to resolve ongoing issues related to after hours activities that are highly disruptive, stressful and harmful to residents, especially during this difficult time.

These public safety and nuisance issues, including sideshow activities and dangerous driving which have resulted in car accidents, littering, illegal dumping, amplified noise, and other disruptive or illegal activities have been well documented and observed by neighbors living adjacent to the Lake.

In some areas by the Lake, such as the Lakeshore cul-de-sac, crowds gather nightly, playing loud music throughout the evening and early morning, racing cars, leaving behind trash, which takes a significant toll on the park, neighbors and public health. Even more concerning, there have been serious safety issues in recent months -- including multiple reports of gun violence.

On October 10, 2020, Councilmember Bas organized a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) analysis in coordination with the Oakland Police Department and City Administrator's Office to assess these concerns and identify actionable recommendations to improve these challenges. During this meeting, several options were explored, including deterrents to late night parking by non-residents in the area.

It is important to note that this resolution is a movement towards noise abatement in the Lakeshore cul-de-sac. The parking restrictions recommended, based on the California Vehicle Code Section 22507, will not affect public access, since the Lake closes before the parking restrictions go into effect. Our Offices stand ready to collaborate with residents and City staff in the RPP petition process and community engagement.

This effort, in addition to others being explored and pursued by the city and community are our strongest solutions to alleviate the persistent activities that are harming our park and neighbors. We encourage our colleagues to join us in support of this resolution.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nikki Fortunato Bas
Councilmember, District 2



Rebecca Kaplan
Council President and Councilmember, At-Large