



Neighborhood Parking Control Program

INTRODUCTION

The City of Canton Community Development Department has established the City of Canton Neighborhood Parking Control Program as a method for neighborhoods to petition the City Council with requests for parking restrictions within a neighborhood. Parking laws in Georgia do have some restrictions in place for parking on a residential street, however, some neighborhoods may wish to require additional restrictions beyond those of Georgia Law.

Parking laws in Georgia restrict the following:

- Double parking
- Parking on the sidewalk, within an intersection, crosswalk, or railroad tracks
- Parking in a safety zone or within 30 feet of the end of the safety zone
- Parking in front of a public driveway
- Parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant or within 20 feet of a crosswalk
- Parking within 30 feet of a stop sign, traffic light or flashing signal

GOALS

The overall goals of the Neighborhood Parking Control Program are as follows:

1. Improve neighborhood livability by reducing visibility issues and impact of parked cars on residential streets, while providing for the safe, efficient and economical movement of persons and vehicles throughout the City.
2. Promote safe and pleasant conditions for residents, pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists on neighborhood streets.
3. Create a program that encourages citizen involvement and streamlines the process for citizens to request neighborhood parking control.



PARKING MANAGEMENT MEASURES

While the overall purpose of this program is to structure the process for neighborhood parking control requests, it should be noted why additional restrictions are not always the answer to reducing street parking in residential neighborhoods. Potential negative side effects to additional parking restrictions may be:

1. Increased Signage and/or painted curbing. “No Parking” signs will be required every 200 ft on each side of the street and/or yellow curb paint.
2. Visitors for birthday parties, get-togethers, holidays may not have anywhere to park their vehicles.
3. Increased vehicle speed. Vehicles parked within the street often slow vehicles down to avoid unforeseen obstacles.

APPLICABILITY

All requests must meet all the following criteria:

1. The street for new parking control restrictions must be a City street and have been officially accepted by City Council for maintenance.
2. Limited to roads that are classified as local roadways.
3. For a subdivision that is not completely built out, a minimum of 50% of the total units, including future undeveloped units within the defined service area, must be occupied before a petition for parking restrictions will be considered.

INITIAL REQUEST

An initial request letter must be received from a citizen requesting that a parking control be restricted at one or more specific locations within a subdivision. Once a request letter has been received, a copy of the City of Canton Neighborhood Parking Control Program will be sent to the requesting citizen, as well as the Homeowner’s Association (HOA) Board of Directors, if applicable. A defined service area will also be determined. This map will show all property owners that have frontage on the effected streets, this may include side streets that intersect with the proposed street that will also be affected by the parking control restrictions. A meeting with the City Engineer is also required.



PETITION

A properly executed petition is a generally accepted form of public action to show support of the parking restrictions on neighborhood streets. The following rules and requirements are to help ensure fairness and integrity of the petition process:

- To have parking control restrictions put in place, a petition must be submitted to the Community Development Department. All the property owners identified in the Defined Service Area should be contacted and given the opportunity to sign this petition, indicating a “YES” or “NO” response to the parking control restrictions. If there is more than one owner to a property, both owners are required to sign. Property owners with more than one parcel will only be allowed one vote. Rental tenants are not acceptable for signatures of the petition.
- The completed petition must be signed and notarized by the witness. The witness’ signature is verifying the signatures of the property owners. At least 70% of the homeowners must be in favor of parking control restrictions, before the petition can be presented to City Council. The petition will be returned to the sender if it does not meet the requirements.
- If a subdivision has a HOA, the HOA Board of Directors must vote for and approve the parking control restrictions. The HOA will then send a certified letter confirming approval to the Community Development Department.

If all requirements of the above are met, the request for parking control restrictions will be placed on the City Council agenda for the next available meeting.

CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL

City Council will receive a copy of the request letter, signed petition, HOA letter, and Staff Recommendation for the requested parking control restriction application. This will be placed on the agenda for the next available Council meeting where City Council will approve or deny the request.