

Public Works recommendations and comments regarding proposed Ordinance No. 2018-09

The Department of Public Works has reviewed proposed Ordinance No. 2018-09, revisions to the parking regulations. The following are our comments:

1. **Sec. 74-51, City of North Port Administrative Code states: Restrictions on certain vehicles.** It shall be unlawful for any person to operate any vehicle on any city roadway when the maximum gross weight imposed on the city roadway exceeds 12,000 pounds nor on any city roadway where the weight of the vehicle permitted on such roadway is limited by sign, except for the purpose of making delivery or picking up a load, in which case such vehicle may be driven on such roadway for not more than the minimum distance necessary for that purpose. Maximum gross weight shall be verified by the police officer by means of a bill of lading in the possession of the driver of subject truck.

Please note that the maximum weight permitted on City roads unless permitted otherwise is 12,000 pounds maximum gross weight. The existing local residential roadways are not built to withstand repetitive vehicle traffic with a maximum gross weight exceeding 12,000 pounds. Proposed Ordinance No. 2018-09 would allow vehicles exceeding this limit to utilize residential roadways in a repetitive nature which could potentially degrade the roadway at an accelerated rate.

2. Line 107-108, definition of a TRUCK – a motor vehicle with an empty vehicle weight of 16,000 lbs. or more, excluding recreational vehicles. The proposed 16,000 lbs. exceeds the 12,000 pounds maximum gross weight permitted in Section 74-51, City of North Port Administrative Code.
3. Line 135-168, (b), (1)-(5):
 - Does truck tractor include or exclude trailer?
 - Any of the listed vehicles could exceed the 12,000 pounds maximum gross weight.
 - Allowing a multitude of vehicles to be parked in the side and rear yards of residential properties will encourage motorists to traverse the stormwater drainage swales.
4. Line 187-192, 5 (e):

- There is no definition for stacked parking. **Stacked parking has been changed to grouped parking.**
- It is our recommendation that the existing language only allowing parallel parking directly adjacent to the roadway should be retained so as to retain the integrity and protection of the stormwater drainage swale. Allowing angled and stacked parking will allow vehicles to park across the center of the stormwater drainage swale thereby impeding the hydraulic function of the stormwater system and also cause rutting to the swale during the rainy season. This will now impact the Operations and Maintenance Division staff as they will be required to respond to citizen requests for services and make determinations on the cause of the rutting and also the responsible party (Resident or Department of Public Works).
- Expand to include no parking on multi-use path or trail.

5. Line 198-210, 5 (e), (3):

- Traversing City stormwater drainage swales in unpaved and unimproved areas will cause damage to the stormwater drainage swales. The flowline/proper grade of the stormwater drainage swales will be negatively impacted especially during the rainy season. This will also affect the stormwater flow for all other residents upstream.