



City of Seattle

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Department of Transportation

Scott Kubly, Director

September 9, 2016

DECISION REGARDING GREEN LAKE RESTRICTED PARKING ZONE

Dear Green Lake Stakeholder:

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) would like to thank everyone who participated in opportunity for public comment, attended the public hearing and engaged with us in developing and considering a proposal for a new Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ) in Green Lake near the business district. Because a majority of comments from the public hearing, online survey and emails to us reflected lack of support for this new zone, SDOT will not install an RPZ in the Green Lake neighborhood.

In July 2014, the Green Lake Community Council (GLCC) requested that SDOT study the feasibility of a new RPZ around the Green Lake business district. SDOT studied the area in December 2014 and found that the area met the minimum criteria. SDOT presented these results to the GLCC in July 2015. SDOT developed a plan for an RPZ and sent an initial proposal and online survey to the community in October 2015. In response to feedback from residents and businesses, SDOT modified the proposal, adding a few blocks on the edges and placing signs on only one side of each block, to better balance needs of all users.

SDOT hosted a public hearing April 19, 2016. Most attendees were residents who expressed concern about increased development in the neighborhood. Residents were also concerned about spillover parking on residential streets due to the high use of the adjacent Green Lake Park. Comments were taken through April 30, 2016. The majority of public comments received were not supportive of establishing a new RPZ. There were many reasons given in opposition – some users did not want any RPZ while others only wanted an RPZ if it was larger and/or much more restrictive.

RPZs can help manage commuter parking near a major institution or neighborhood business district. However, RPZs do not effectively address issues of residential development, nor are they used to limit access to public amenities such as Green Lake Park. To establish a new RPZ there must be “...a strong and effective community engagement effort indicating that generally stakeholders in the designated area have reviewed and support the restricted parking zone...” (Seattle Municipal Code 11.16.317b). In Green Lake, this was not the case.

Again, thank you for your participation. You can visit www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/rpz_new.htm for detailed background information. If you have any questions, please contact me at ruth.harper@seattle.gov or 206-684-4103.

Best regards,

Ruth Harper

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