



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Camas Staff

DATE: July 26, 2016

RE: Consideration of Eliminating 2-Hour Parking Restrictions near Camas High School

The following written comments, all received prior to July 26th, are from residents and/or owners of property in the areas currently designated as 2-hour parking from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM on school days as well as the Waterleaf Subdivision residents and owners to the south of this restricted area. Any comments received after July 25th will be forwarded on to Council for consideration and deliberation in the August 1st Council meeting.

Comment 1

To Whom It May Concern,

As a home owner on Ione Street, near Camas High School, I do not feel that it is appropriate to remove the 2 hour parking signs prior to the initiation of the school year.

The addition of 200 parking spaces on the Camas High School campus will significantly help with the parking issue at the school. However, I do not believe that it will resolve the problem. I have noticed many students parking in the nearby neighborhood as a way to have easy access to leaving the school during school hours. The continued repercussions associated with parking in the neighborhood will help deter that behavior. Additionally, I have noted that as more and more students gain their driving license throughout the school year, that more and more cars park in the area. I do not believe that the 200 parking spaces will relieve this congestion either.

It is my opinion that a one year assessment period should occur, in which the parking patterns of the students can be appropriately evaluated. At the end of the 2016-2017 academic year, after the data collection and analysis has occurred, it would be appropriate to revisit the idea of eliminating the parking signs.

I appreciate the financial strain that parking enforcement can have on the police department and hope that the additional parking will address the need for restricted parking in the neighborhood. However, it is not appropriate to base decisions on the potential impact just on speculation. Factual evidence supporting the change should be available prior to making this change.

Sincerely,

Guenever Parsley & Carol Waite

2-Hour Parking Restrictions Comments

Comment 2

To Whom It May Concern,

My husband and I just received the letter from the City of Camas notifying us of that the City Council is considering the elimination of the 2 hour parking restrictions in our neighborhood due to the 200 new spots being created at Camas High School. The possibility of the restrictions being lifted is extremely concerning to us for several reasons.

First, while the addition of the 200 new parking spots will help with parking, it will not solve the parking problem at the high school. Being a teacher in the district, I know full-well that the population at the high school is continuing to expand exponentially. We live in an affluent community where almost every teenager has a car. If students learn that our neighborhood is now available for parking, they will be ready to take advantage of this instead of having to car pool or having a parent drop them off. Our neighborhood will become a secondary lot for them.

Second, unfortunately, the high school students are not good neighbors. Prior to the restrictions originally being in place, we had problems with trash being scattered, property being damaged, teenagers loitering in large groups in people's yards, cigarette garbage thrown in yards, planters and fences (including our own) being damaged, and the list goes on. Even with the restrictions in place, kids continue to park in our neighborhood and these problems continue to crop up until we complain and the police crack down and do sweeps. I can't imagine having no restrictions in place with the increased population at the high school and what that would do to the quality of our neighborhood.

Third, if our neighborhood gets opened up again for parking, no one in the neighborhood would be able to park on the street as the streets will be filled with cars from the high school. This was another main reason that we sought the restrictions in the first place. There were so many cars parked in our neighborhood that residents often had no place to park their own vehicles at times when they needed to, not even for two hours. Now, with the population at the high school continuing to grow, even with the expanded parking, they will flood our neighborhood as shown by past experience.

Fourth, with the additional cars parked throughout the neighborhood, it presents many safety concerns for drivers and children in the neighborhood. When the streets are filled with cars, the sight lines for turning onto Hayes and 38th is severely restricted. I have had many a close call by not being able to see as I pull out and try to see around the cars to access the streets safely. In addition, school buses that come through the neighborhood to pick up students will have a difficult time navigating the streets if they are lined with cars on both sides making it difficult to transport kids safely from the neighborhood. Also, when children from the elementary school are walking to or from school, even though the times of arrival and dismissal are a bit different, there have been many close calls with teenagers driving and behaving irresponsibly in the neighborhood. Having them parking in the neighborhood will not help with these on-going safety concerns.

Last, prior to the restrictions, often times many driveways would be blocked and residents would have a hard time leaving and entering their own driveways and garages. Having the parking restrictions in place alleviated this problem.

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As the City Council considers this decision, I would you like to think about whether you would like 100 or more teenagers parking in your neighborhood on a daily basis and the impact that might have on your home and property. When you put yourselves in our shoes, I hope you see that removing the restrictions is not in the best interest of the tax-paying residents in these neighborhoods. I know that we are not alone in expressing our concerns and you will probably be hearing from many residents within the neighborhood. We ask that you please consider our quality of living and the value of our neighborhood that will be negatively impacted with the lifting of the restrictions. There really is no logical reason to lift the restrictions and every reason to keep the restrictions in place.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. We wish that we could be at the meeting on August 1 to speak to you directly but unfortunately, we have had a trip planned for a long time that cannot be changed to accommodate your meeting date.

Best Regards,

Dana and Susie Hassel
824 NE 40th Circle
Camas, WA 98607

Comment 3

Camas City Council,

Yes, remove the 2 hour parking restrictions in the neighborhoods nearby the high school. If you don't do this you MUST standardize the parking rules on all streets including the Waterleaf neighborhood which begins on Ione Street south of 38th Avenue.

The Waterleaf neighborhood should not be unfairly treated to bear the brunt of the overflow parking issue with bumper to bumper parking by students on both sides of the streets.

It is not fair to the residents, students or service workers (garbage, recycling, lawn maintenance, etc.). The overflow of parking creates safety concerns for students walking almost a mile to school, residents, and children trying to get to the bus stops. Service vehicles are forced to double park or park too close to driveways and risk parking violations.

Take down all the 2 hour parking signs to spread out the parked cars onto the wider streets or install 2 hour parking signs in Waterleaf!

Regards,

Chad Fossey
3637 NE Ione St
Camas, WA 98607

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Comment 4

Dear Camas City Council,

I am writing in opposition to the elimination of the 2 hour parking restrictions from 7am-3pm on school days in the neighborhoods near Camas High School.

When I received the letter regarding removal of the 2 hour school day parking limit I was extremely disappointed in the City of Camas.

My family has been living on NE 38th for almost 3 years and have been Camas residents since 2004. We moved into this neighborhood from acreage on Livingston Mtn for several reasons: close proximity to the high school since our son was starting there as a freshman, seclusion of the neighborhood meaning traffic was limited to families living here (or so we thought), and 38th is a wide road that gave the neighborhood a more open and uncluttered feel. It was a difficult decision going from 5 acres and no neighbors to a 10,000sq ft lot with close neighbors.

So we moved in April and noticed how crowded 38th was during school days with cars parking in front of the houses on the upper half of 38th street. Speaking with neighbors we were told that every year the parking gets worse. Our second year here I was appalled about the amount of traffic and kids parking in front of our homes. I have a small section in front of my house for visitors to park that fits about 1 large vehicle. I did everything to prevent the high school students from parking there. I would park my car in the street and then move it after school started or place my garbage and recycle bins so far apart that no one could park in front of my house. I was frustrated and let my frustrations be known to the city. Worrying about the traffic, speeding, safety of my animals, kids walking to the bus stops or school, lack of visibility when pulling out of my driveway, and lack of parking, really affected my enjoyment of my new home.

In about 15 minutes one day I counted 100+ cars speeding by my house on the way to school. I would say about 75% were kids on their way to park in the neighborhood, and the others were parents driving their kids to school using 38th as a cut through street so they can by-pass traffic. If you are surprised by the numbers and think I may be exaggerating you shouldn't be. By the end of my son's 9th grade year about 50-60 cars were parking on NE 38th alone. The lack of respect from all the drivers with their speeding and poor driving infuriated me. There were cars everywhere, no one was driving close to 25mph until they ran into the bumper to bumper back up on Hayes from 38th to 43rd. The noise from all the cars was ridiculous. I thought I moved into a quiet neighbor, not one on a main drag. I was starting to regret the move but the convenience of the high school for my son made us decide to stay put.

Needless to say I was overjoyed when the parking signs went up on 38th. The past year has been stress free and very nice. The neighborhood has returned to the relatively clean and quiet area I envisioned when we moved in.

My family is completely against removing the signs. In fact I think the signs should be extended into the Waterleaf neighborhood. Taking down the signs will not only encourage more traffic, more speeding, more congestion, more noise, less parking, less visibility, less safety, decrease in accessibility to our own driveways, and less enjoyment of the neighborhood. If you think putting another 200 parking spots at the High School will significantly decrease all of the above, you are sadly mistaken. Kids like to park in the neighborhood for several reasons. They can arrive later to school and still make

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it to 1st period on time, don't have to deal with the traffic on 15th at all, and avoid school parking lot congestion. They also don't have to apply and pay for a permit to park in the neighborhood.

I would expect the City to do the right thing and leave the 2 hour parking limit in place as well as add the Waterleaf neighborhood to the restricted area. I love living in Camas and would love to continue to brag to others about how much our city is different and actually cares about their citizens.

I cannot think of a single advantage to removing the parking restrictions.

Sincerely,

Bob and Kathleen Schoene
806 NE 38th Ave

Comment 5

Camas City Council,

Yes, remove the 2 hour parking restrictions in the neighborhoods nearby the high school. If you don't do this you **MUST** homogenize the parking rules on all streets including the Waterleaf neighborhood which begins on Ione Street south of 38th Avenue.

The Waterleaf neighborhood should not be unfairly treated to bear the brunt of the overflow parking issue with bumper to bumper parking by students on both sides of the streets (see attached photo from this past school year), which has caused numerous safety issues. Take down all the 2 hour parking signs or put 2 hour parking signs in Waterleaf!

Respectfully,

Jeff Immel
3513 NE Garfield ST

Comment 6

Hello,

My name is Todd Colwell and I reside at 3632 NE Ione St. I wish to voice my opinion about the parking issue that has dangerously plagued our Waterleaf subdivision. Our HOA has requested that the City install 2 hour limited parking as it has done in the adjacent subdivision, however our request was denied. As such, a balloon squeeze of parking occurred and has created quite an issue on our streets.

As such if there is not an option to install the same 2 hour limited parking in the Waterleaf subdivision (Ione and Hayes) , which would be my first preference, than I am greatly in favor of removing the 2 hour limited parking that is currently in place in the adjacent neighborhoods (as listed in the letter dated July 20th, in reference to this issue).

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I believe that it is unfair to have these restriction in one neighborhood if it cannot be employed in all adjacent neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Todd Colwell

Comment 7

Dear Camas City Council,

I am a resident and homeowner on NE 38th Avenue, I am also a parent to three young children whom I look forward to someday attending Camas High School. I am a Washougal High graduate and my husband is a Camas High graduate. We have been part of this community our entire lives and when purchasing a home settled in Camas because this community is where we want to raise our family. We are connected in and committed to our community. While I am many things, I am NOT in support of your consideration to eliminate the parking restrictions within Lacamas Summit. There are many reasons for my opposition to this consideration, but they can be summarized as safety, community services and neighborliness:

- **Safety:** I have small children who are difficult to see around parked cars, two of whom are too young to understand the danger of the road and cars. New drivers are rarely the most observant or rule-abiding drivers and their newly acquired driving skills combined with driving too quickly in a neighborhood overflowing with parked cars is a recipe for tragedy. Additionally as a result of the number of vehicles which park too closely to our driveways we are unable to see to safely pull out of our driveways, this is compounded by students (and parents) speeding through our neighborhood. When our neighborhood is stacked with cars it is unsafe, it puts us and students in danger, even on sidewalks!
- **Community Services:** During school hours when our neighborhood is packed with cars other vehicles cannot do their jobs. This includes garbage and recycling trucks, delivery vehicles and school buses being prevented from safely passing, picking up cans, delivering packages. Finally, I fear for the challenges that emergency vehicles would face in trying to get to our houses and access fire hydrants safely and urgently in the case of of an emergency during school hours.
- **Neighborliness:** Good neighbors are kind and considerate of those around us, we consider how our actions are going to impact our neighbors and treat them well. I expect the same of visitors to our neighborhood. Unfortunately, while many high school students are good neighbors, some are not. When they are on the school campus they are bound by the rules of the campus and those rules are enforced by the school, but when students use our neighborhood as their secondary parking lot they are not under these rules and no one is ensuring they are good neighbors. Instead, there is an increase in noise, litter, vehicles driving at excessive speeds, and illegal or inconsiderate parking with little to no consequence. Camas High School has not been a good neighbor by encouraging their students to park in our neighborhood without providing adequate supervision (yes, I understand the staffing constraints, my husband is an educator), they also have not been a good neighbor by providing inadequate parking for their students and staff so they are forced to park in surrounding neighborhoods. The City of Camas has not been a good neighbor to Lacamas Summit residents by providing inadequate enforcement of traffic and parking laws prior to last year when the restrictions were put in on 38th.

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I am unsure of your motivation to remove the parking restrictions, but there has to be a compromise that doesn't endanger my family or adversely impact my property. A few thoughts/ideas:

- **Support and enforcement:** As I previously mentioned the city had provided little to no support for these problems prior to last year. We had repeatedly asked for your help and received very little. We were told there was little that could be done and as there was "only one parking enforcement officer" in Camas and they couldn't spend all of their time in our neighborhood. Ironically last year, after the restrictions were put in place on 38th, we suddenly saw the parking enforcement officer multiple times per day, multiple days per week. This after having rarely seen the officer in our neighborhood in the 6 years prior (and rarely if ever seeing a police officer on patrol). Perhaps, if this support and enforcement had been provided prior to these restrictions we wouldn't have felt the need for or been asking to keep such tight restrictions. These restrictions are an inconvenience to us too. If students knew they would be held to regular traffic laws and expectations within our neighborhood, there would be fewer problems. Unfortunately due to the city's actions in the last year, we don't believe/trust the city to provide this enforcement for us. Perhaps we could start by removing restrictions on one side of each street and showing us you are serious about providing enforcement and support to our neighborhood in the coming year. This would build trust in the City (from the residents) and set good expectations for students who choose to park here.
- **Adequate Parking on Campus:** Any other business/establishment has to provide adequate parking for all the traffic/vehicles they regularly attract, why is the same not true for Camas High School? I understand special events may draw more vehicles and would expect the occasional overflow into surrounding neighborhoods; however on a daily basis that is unacceptable. I have voted yes and will vote yes on every school levy or bond that is proposed. When Camas Schools builds or expand schools, they should be required to provide appropriate levels of parking for the day to day volume of vehicles that need to park there.
- **Permitted Parking for Residents/Limited Parking for Students:** We have been told that the City of Camas "doesn't do" permit parking. Why? This seems like a great solution. A simple permit/sticker to identify residents (or extended guests) in our vehicles, so community resources aren't wasted patrolling and ticketing vehicles that are legally parked in their own neighborhood. Change the parking restrictions to only being on one side of each street and provide the level of enforcement that has been provided during the 2015-16 school year on an ongoing basis to encourage students who do park in our neighborhood to be good neighbors.

To be honest I am disappointed in the City of Camas' response to this problem. It has seemed underhanded and with contempt. I simply want my neighborhood (and community) to be safe and those who need to come and go in it to be able to do so adequately and safely. This requires appropriate infrastructure. Your consideration to remove parking restrictions is wrongly focused, at the taxpayers and residents instead of at desperately needed infrastructure for the quickly growing Camas High. While helpful, the expectation that 200 spots will solve the parking problem with the extreme growth our community continues to see is poor at best. I encourage you to consider a better solution, a bigger solution, than putting my family and property back in jeopardy.

Thank you,

Lisa Orr
Homeowner NE 38th Ave, Camas

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Comment 8

Sirs:

My husband and I received a notice that the City of Camas is considering removing the 2 hour school day parking limit throughout the Lacamas Summit Neighborhood. We have lived at 825 NE 40th Circle since before the new high school was built, so we remember the issues our neighborhood experienced which lead to setting up the current parking restrictions.

Listed are only a few problems caused by students parking in front of and at the side of our house: our driveway was blocked several times so we had to jockey around just to get out - if we could get out at all;
trash and recycling was not picked up because student cars blocked the areas trucks needed to access the cans - if we could find space to leave our cans/bins;
students dropped litter freely in the street and on our property;
students trespassed on our property walking through flower beds, sometimes picking flowers or breaking down plantings;
and worst of all, when we asked them (in civil tones) please do not take shortcuts across our yard, some used crude and foul language, calling me or my husband names I won't repeat.

We sympathize with the need to find parking for the students, and appreciate that the school is currently working to expand space for student parking - which unfortunately is not anticipated to address coming needs.

However, our neighborhood does not wish to receive overflow parking from the students at the high school. We have faith that you will find other means to address this issue. One which may work is to limit use of school parking to Juniors and Seniors only. This seemed to work in the past.

I request that you read this letter into the record at the City Council meeting scheduled for August 1st at City Hall, a meeting which I will attend.

Thank you for your consideration.

Donald M. and Tamara Gerard
825 NE 40th Circle, Camas WA 98607

Comment 9

July 24, 2016

RE: City Council Review of 2 Hour Parking Limits on School Days

Dear Council,

I'm writing this letter in regards to the above issue. I was disappointed to receive a letter dated July 20, that arrived in our mailbox on July 22 stating that written comments were due Monday July 25. This is right in the midst of summer vacation season and many residents are probably out of town during this time. The optimist in me says that this was an oversight. The pessimist says that the timing and short time window was calculated for quick passage. I'm hopeful that my optimistic side is correct on this matter.

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As a Camas resident for over 10 years, I'm very concerned about the potential elimination of the 2 hour restrictions on our street. Our street is very close to the high school and will no doubt see a bigger impact than streets further away.

When we moved into our current residence, there was not a parking restriction in place. During that time I recall having cars parked up and down the street, sometimes blocking driveways. Additionally I remember trash and cigarette butts being strewn on the street where high school students had parked their cars. I have reason to believe that those things will occur again if the parking restrictions are lifted.

Our particular street has very little additional parking available, and it gets particularly sparse down in the cul-de-sac where our home is located. There are a number of people who work from home, homemakers or home all day for other reasons on our street. If the limited parking is taken up by high school students, how are the folks that live and work on the street supposed to conduct their daily lives if they have no place for others to park?

An additional concern is trash and recycling pick up days. Currently on our street trash pickup is on Tuesdays, and yard debris is on Thursdays. With the automated trucks that are in use, it is important that clearance be maintained for the cans to be picked up. These types of trucks were not in use prior to the parking restrictions. I now see this as a potential problem without the restrictions in place.

Finally, particularly in the afternoon, there are several families with small children in our neighborhood out playing. This time often coincides with the release of kids from class at the high school. That puts inexperienced high school age drivers on our street, needing to turn around in our cul-de-sac, with small children riding bicycles and playing ball in the same space.

We love Camas and we love the Camas school district. We have two children in the school system, one of which will be a senior next year at CHS. Therefore this is not a rant against a younger generation. This is simply a statement of fact of what we witnessed before, an observation of what may be problems in the future and a plea to not eliminate the parking restrictions.

Please consider the true impact this decision will have on our neighborhood. As it is we already are impacted every school morning with the massive traffic jam of kids going to CHS. That traffic sometimes prevents us from being able to leave our neighborhood for work. We already "live with" that inconvenience, and recognize it is just part of living here in this neighborhood. I point this out, because this neighborhood is already impacted enough.

As it was suggested that comments include "constructive comments" I will provide a couple of suggestions:

- Consider having students park at Doc Harris stadium and run a shuttle school bus to the school.
- Limit the parking passes to seniors only (as they did at my high school years ago).
- Since CHS is so academically focused, consider creating a program that ties obtaining and keeping a parking pass to academic performance in school.
- Mandate a carpool program for students driving to school and obtaining parking passes. Many of the vehicles I see in the morning are single driver vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Strickland

638 NE 42nd Circle

Camas, WA

98607

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Comment 10

Hello,

I'm Qi Dai and I live near Camas High School (920 NE 41st Ave, Camas WA98607). I've heard that the city is considering removing the 2 hour school day parking throughout the neighborhood and I'm strongly against it. The high school students were smoking or threw bags of garbages in our front yard and had hidden water bottle under the plants before and it often happens. If removing the 2 hour school day parking, it will bring more inconvenience to our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time reading this email.

Qi Dai

Comment 11

My name is Jim Bryant and I reside on 42nd Circle in the Lacamas Summit neighborhood. I am writing this note to request that the 2 hour parking limit be left in place. I understand that 200 additional parking spaces are being constructed at the high school, however the feeling among a large number of students is that the fastest way to get off campus at the end of class is to park in our neighborhood. By doing so they can avoid the long lines of cars trying to exit the school lots. That said, no matter how many new spaces are added on school grounds it will not stop those that want to get out faster and student parking will probably increase in our neighborhood because there is no longer the risk of a citation for doing so. Add to this the blocking of mailboxes, hindering of garbage pickup and street sweeping. Once again I am asking that the 2 hour parking limit be left in place and enforced.

Comment 12

Dear Camas City Council,

I am writing in opposition to the elimination of the 2 hour parking restrictions from 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM on school days in the neighborhoods near Camas High School (i.e. Lacamas Summit). The proposed elimination of the 2 hour parking restrictions will have a detrimental impact on the neighborhoods effected. The Lacamas Summit community fought very hard to get the City to implement the restrictions. Even with the signs in place, neighbors continue to endure:

- Blocked driveways.
- Dumping of trash from cars.
- Private property being used as smoking/social areas.
- Blocked fire hydrants.
- Students entering/exiting neighborhoods at excessive speeds, even young children are at play
- Hayes and 38th become effectively one lane streets due to the poor parking of students, on both sides of the street, effectively making it difficult to near impossible for residents to enter/exit the neighborhood.
- Open contempt from the students for private property and tax paying homeowners.

This past school year, the City provided code enforcement at a much higher level than previous years. This made a noticeable impact to the above list of issues and made living in the neighborhood more

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manageable than years past. However, I can't help but feel that this increased enforcement was just one of several underhanded tactics employed by the City to push residents into removing the 2 hour restrictions. Not only did code enforcement continually ticket known resident's cars, but they also ticketed vendor and contractor vehicles. A slightly less overt tactic was the timing of the notification letter sent out by the City to "alert" residents of the City Council's intent. The letter, dated July 20, 2016, was received by most residents on or after July 21 (we didn't receive ours until July 22nd). Even if residents received the letter the same day it was penned, that only affords residents 5 days to provide written response to be included in the Council Agenda packet. This covert and subversive tactic has not gone unnoticed and is most definitely not appreciated by the tax paying residents of Lacamas Summit.

In closing, I want to remind the City Council of the City of Camas' mission statement:

The City of Camas commits to preserving its heritage, sustaining and enhancing a high quality of life for all its citizens and developing the community to meet the challenges of the future. We take pride in preserving a healthful environment while promoting economic growth. We encourage citizens to participate in government and community, assisting the City in its efforts to provide quality services consistent with their desires and needs.

Regards,

Josh & Sandy Connell
637 NE 42nd Cir

Comment 13

To the City Engineer and Camas City Council,

I am writing in response to the letter notifying us and our Lacamas Summit neighbors that the Camas City Council will consider removing the two-hour parking zones during school hours in our neighborhood. Please have this letter read into the record at the August 1 meeting.

According to the letter, Camas High School will be building a new parking area with 200 new spaces. This is supposed to alleviate the parking problems at the high school, removing the demand to park in our neighborhood.

In the past year, we signed a petition to have parking zones established on 38th Ave in addition to those already in place on Ione and Hayes streets. We supported this because we were experiencing regular problems with students parking on 38th. Cans, bottles, trash, cigarette butts, even broken pottery projects could be found where the students parked. Since the parking zones have been installed, we have had much cleaner, quieter streets.

The Camas school district has experienced substantial population growth, increasing by a third over the past 10 years according to Mike Nerland, former Camas Superintendent. From the same January Post-Record article, he expects that growth to continue. The school district also has plans to open a 600-student magnet high school on the CHS grounds.

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Considering the expected growth and the possibility of 300 new magnet student drivers, it seems that the 200-car lot won't be enough to accommodate the new growth for long, if at all. Rather than no longer using our neighborhood streets for parking, it seems they will be used even more.

Removing the parking zones would likely bring the return of the problems we have seen in the past, including blocked driveways, blocked trash and recycle bins, poor student parking practices, and excessive speed trying to get to a parking spot.

We respectfully request that the City Council vote to maintain the two-hour parking zones as they currently exist today.

Sincerely,
Dirk and Tesha Hoff
3810 NE Ione St

Comment 14

Hello,

I live on 42nd circle. During the school year I am continually picking up garbage, telling the young people to slow down as they race through our cul-de-sac. Our neighborhood is not the solution to the City of Camas's lack of infrastructure. This will also lower our house value.

Thank You,
Wolfgang and Becky List

Comment 15

As a former President of the Lacamas Summit Neighborhood Association I am writing to ask to keep the 2-hour parking time limit in our neighborhood during school days from 7 am to 3 pm.

I know Camas High School is installing new parking for the 2016 - 17 school year that could relieve some of need for offsite parking. I am asking that until the end of the school year to make a determination. Each year as more students earn the driver's license, more cars become in need of parking and despite all the additional spaces added at the school and loosening of other parking restrictions, cars have always parked in the nearby neighborhoods.

Again, please keep the current parking restrictions in our neighborhood in affect through the 2016-17 school year to determine the affect the increased parking capacity has on our neighborhood and then we can discuss changes for the 2017-18 school year.

Thank you.

Helping to make golf a better game,
Kevin D. Coombs, PGA Certified Professional

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Comment 16

City of Camas,

Hello, My name is Susie Costa and I reside on Ione St. I am asking that you remove the 2 hour parking signs from immediate areas surrounding the Waterleaf subdivision. While it seemed well intentioned, it has created a bottleneck of student parking in our neighborhood as we were not able to get the same signs for our area. This created a haven of parking in one sub with one exit surrounded by neighborhoods that were deemed, "no parking". We have had several issues with students parking in our area including blocked busses for Helen Baller and trash left by students. While I recognize the need for parking near Camas High, it was done in an inequitable way. All near neighborhoods should have signs or all signs should be removed so that parkers are more evenly spread out.

Thank you for your time,

Susan Costa

Comment 17

Dear Engineering Department and City Council,

Please take down all of the 2-hour parking signs in the neighborhoods near the Camas High School.

I live in the Waterleaf neighborhood. Due to current signage inconsistencies, the amount of parked cars during school hours has become dangerous. The CHS students looking for parking have been pushed on to our streets (Ione and Hayes) since all other streets are posted. Buses, service vehicles and residents are impacted severely. The numerous amount of cars in a concentrated time has led to traffic infractions and police involvement. I have also witnessed many occasions of drag racing, speeding, drug use, vandalism, littering and loud profanity.

If you vote to keep the signs up, then please put them up throughout the neighborhoods, not leaving one neighborhood to suffer the consequences of all the overflow parking problems.

Thank you,

Diane Irwin

Comment 18

Dear City of Camas,

As a resident of the Waterleaf neighborhood, my family has been burdened with a literal student parking lot in front of our house as we live next the barricade that led to what used to be a field. There the students consistently block fire hydrants and stack park illegally. The elementary school bus stop is also in front of my house, where nearly 15 children have to catch the bus each day, it's just not a safe situation. We have had to call officer Fellows many times throughout the school year regarding poor behavior by some students. Some ruin it for all.

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One suggestion would be to open up the parking along Hayes between 38th and 43rd. On the one side of the street, there aren't any homes or driveways, and that is the widest road in the area. Even allowing parking on the one side of the road without driveways would make a lot more sense than in front of my house where they are stack parking.

Obviously if that's not enough, you will need to remove some or all the signs in the area, or add them to the Waterleaf development as well. There just has to be some reprieve from the congestion on our small road and neighborhood. It's become very unsafe for our children.

Looking forward to a great solution,

Serene and Brandon Pasa
1022 NE 35th ave

Comment 19

To whom it may concern:

From: Justin & Deborah Reaves
735 NE 40th Circle
Camas, WA. 98607

We have 4 people who have automobile's and are all drivers that live in our home. We only have parking for 2 vehicles at our house. This has been a terrible inconvenience for us as well as costing us money. We can't park a car in front of our own home without getting tickets, we have friends and family come up just to get parking tickets at our house. We are strongly for removing the 2 hour limit, or going to a parking permit to put in the windows of our cars.

Sincerely,
Justin & Deborah Reaves

Comment 20

City Administrators and City Council Members,

I am writing to share my displeasure over the proposal to remove the 2 hour parking limit in my neighborhood (Lacamas Summit). I am a long time resident of Camas and a graduate of Camas Schools. I support many of the amazing things happening in the City of Camas and in Camas schools, but I cannot support the idea of having no regulation on the parking in the neighborhoods around Camas High School.

There is a long history of precedent for regulating parking around Camas High School. When I attended Camas High School in the mid 90's there were 2 hour parking restrictions in many of the neighborhoods surrounding the school. The precedent of restricting non resident parking for students and visitors to the school has existed for decades around Camas High School. Past City Administrators and Council Members saw this as a desirable solution to protect resident parking areas around Camas High School. Please do not reverse this working solution.

2-Hour Parking Restrictions Comments

The increase in student parking is a step in remedying the problem of overcrowded parking lots at Camas High School, but the burden of student parking should remain on the administrators of the Camas School district not on the residents living near its borders.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kyle Orr
753 NE 38th Ave.
Camas, WA 98607

Comment 21

Hello,

I am in receipt of the letter regarding the High School parking situation in my neighborhood. I am a resident of Waterleaf and live on Ione St.

Issues the parking creates:

1. Safety - there are children in almost every house in this neighborhood. Having cars lined up back-to-back creates a serious safety issue while the cars are parked there, while they are coming and going, and for homeowners trying to back out at any of these times. Teens have been seen (and reported to law enforcement) speeding up and down Ione many times, with what appears to be drag racing.
2. Appearance - many of these cars are old, beat-up, missing windows, leak fluids, etc. We are a neighborhood which takes pride in ownership and our home values reflect that (>\$500k). These vehicles parked Monday-Friday 7am-3pm will/are reducing are home values.
3. Distribution - We are the only neighborhood that does not have signs, therefore we took on the entire burden for the 2015-2016 school year. This is not only unfair, it is unsafe. There is really no safe area in Waterleaf due to our narrow streets and the amount of homes for vehicles to park regularly Monday thru Friday 7am to 3pm.
4. Rood and disrespectful teenagers without supervision - Teens have been seen smoking marijuana and possibly other substances. Teens litter on our property. They loiter in our neighborhood before and after school. While they are loitering, they play loud music and yell, causing disturbances to residents inside their homes.

Suggestions:

1. Distribute "parking areas" equally throughout the streets around the high school. Hayes is a long, wide street that does not have houses facing or driveways on one entire side. This seems like an appropriate place for high schoolers to park. Only allow it on the one side though. Another place with no driveways is in front of our open space on 38th st. Again, only allow a certain amount of space, not to be too close to driveways.
2. We need 2hr no parking signs ASAP if the other signs do not come down. It is unfair and unsafe to let this amount of vehicles park in our neighborhood.

Final words:

2-Hour Parking Restrictions Comments

Waterleaf residents are the victims here. We did not ask for this situation nor do we deserve it any more than another neighborhood. We did not ask for the increased high school enrollment, therefore, not having enough parking. It is technically not our problem, but poor planning on the part of the city and school. If teens are not able to get a parking pass, they should not be encouraged to come park in our neighborhood. They should be told they will need to figure their "problem" out on their own, with their families, or friends (carpool). **DO NOT CONTINUE SUGGESTING TO PARK IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD!** We are tax paying citizens taking on an extreme burden for the city of Camas and the high school students and it needs to stop!

Sincerely,

Kelly & Janae Naron
3613 NE Ione St.

Comment 22

Hello,

I live on NE 38th Ave. in Camas. Prior to the two hour parking restriction, that is now in place, we experienced garbage along the sidewalk area. Cars were parked all along both sides of the street, creating a narrow passage way up and down the street where cars traveled at dangerously fast rates of speed. The parked cars were overly close to our driveway entrance creating a hazard for us to exit our driveway and caused us to have difficulties with the placement of recycling and garbage containers. Hayes street and NE 38th avenue are used by a large number of students as an alternate route to "race" other students that travel around Everett Street and SE 15th Street. We have supported Camas schools in every way. I'm pleased to see our tax dollars create additional on campus parking, however I do not want there to be parking along NE 38th avenue. I also support my neighbors with this parking issue along their streets as well.

Again, the parking is not just an inconvenience but it creates a dangerous situation each day. In addition, our street parking was not intended to be an extension of the high school parking lot. I will attend the City Council meeting on Aug. 1st. Also, I would like to have this email read and recorded at the city council meeting.

Thank you,
Brenden (& Sarah) George

Comment 23

The elimination of the 2 hour parking restriction will increase the already chaotic morning traffic on 38th st. and Hayes st. Every school day morning there is bumper to bumper traffic to the high school, not just on Everett st. but on 38th st. and Hayes st. as well. The new parking lot will help the parking problem a bit but will certainly not eliminate it completely as the student population continues to grow.

I live in the Waterleaf neighborhood and our request for two hour parking signs was denied. As a result, we have many students parking on both sides of the roads in our neighborhood which causes difficulty for school buses to navigate our narrow streets.

2-Hour Parking Restrictions Comments

I respectfully ask that the city NOT eliminate the two hour parking restriction.

Thank you,

Jessica Floyd
3611 NE Garfield Ct.

Comment 24

Dear Camas City Council,

We would like to address your letter dated July 20, 2016 in regards to eliminating the two hour parking restriction in our neighborhood (Lacamas Summit) and include it in the public hearing records on August 1, 2016.

It's widely known that parking, and even more so, the traffic around Camas High School is a big problem for the city. As your letter states, "The Camas School District is currently constructing nearly 200 additional parking spaces at Camas High School to accommodate the student parking demand and *attempt to alleviate the on-street parking of students' vehicles in nearby neighborhoods.*" We believe this plan will do that. However, the next sentence in your letter contradicts the goal stated in the sentence above (bold/italicized), "With these improvements taking place, the City Council is considering the elimination of the 2 hour parking restrictions from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm on school days that are currently posted in nearby neighborhoods."

Obviously, the elimination will not alleviate on-street parking but instead open the flood gates for even more traffic to/from the high school and more cars cluttering the streets of our neighborhood. For those of you unaware, this was attempted in the past and resulted in disruptions of garbage/recycling services, hindering access in and out of driveways, and more speeding and littering in the neighborhood. If you truly want to achieve the goal stated in your letter, then inhibiting (not increasing) the number of students driving to/from school should be encouraged. Once the total number of parking permits at the high school are distributed, students should be encouraged to use public transportation, car pooling and walking to school, which will lessen traffic, parking and pollution while increasing both students and neighbors safety.

Lastly, I would like to call attention to an idea that some Camas High School students introduced to us last year. They discussed a new service where homeowners can essentially "rent" their empty driveway space for parking. This service has begun in the Portland area but they were hoping to expand to surrounding areas, in particular around Camas High School. More information on this service can be found at <http://adjacentpark.com/>. This could be another method for reducing street parking in our neighborhood.

Thank you for your time and our hope is we can come together on a plan that works best for the city and the community.

Sincerely,

Robert & Stephanie Theumer

2-Hour Parking Restrictions Comments

Comment 25

I am opposed to eliminating the 2 hour parking limit on streets near Camas High School. It is to soon the consider this until after the new parking is operational and we have time to see the effect on our neighborhood for at least one school year.

Doug Hail
3429 NE Garfield St
Camas, WA 98607