

February, 2015

Parking in Rivergate

As previously announced at the Board of Director's meeting on Tuesday evening, February 10, the Board reviewed the parking situation in Rivergate.

After considering the comments by homeowners who live on each of our 4 interior streets, and reviewing the relevant precedents, the Board adopts the following parking rules:

1. **Rivergate Place, Montgomery Place, Madison Place.** Homeowners, tenants, and guests may park passenger vehicles on the stamped concrete areas in front of their garages only if the vehicle does not encroach or overhang the black top street. Every effort should be made to park parallel to the street.
2. **Water Place.** Due to the very narrow space on Water Place, homeowners, tenants and guests may not park parallel to the black top street. A second passenger vehicle may be parked in the driveway in front of the garage door, provided this vehicle does not encroach or overhang the black top street.
3. Generally, no passenger vehicle belonging to any homeowner, tenant or guest may be parked in a manner which unreasonably interferes with the ability of vehicles to safely make turns from one interior street to another.
4. **Service vehicles.** We recognize that these vehicles may sometimes need to temporarily encroach on the black top streets but homeowners and tenants are responsible for seeing to it that these vehicles are parked so they minimize the encroachment.
5. **Homeowners** are responsible for parking by their tenants, guests, employees and service providers.

Comments by the Board.

It was the overwhelming view of the Board and the homeowners who commented that the parking problems we have will be solved by communication of clear rules to all and encouraging simple "good neighboring" by our homeowners and their tenants. There was also a consensus that homeowners should assume greater responsibility for the parking by their tenants, guests, employees and service providers.

With respect to guest parking, the City issues guest passes for parking on the adjacent exterior streets, i.e. Madison St and Montgomery St, free or for a very reasonable fee for longer stays. See the City of Alexandria website: <http://apps.alexandriava.gov/RPP2014/>.

Some homeowners may still feel that the Board's rules above do not go far enough to protect the aesthetics of the community. As one homeowner put it: "[it is] an eyesore to walk into our neighborhood and see all the vehicles parked awkwardly in front of their homes. These homes have garages...." The Board is sympathetic to this concern and we believe the Board has the authority to

adopt stricter rules; but as of now, and particularly in view of the way the parking rules have been administered for many years, we feel the rules we have adopted are a reasonable compromise.

As to enforcement, we are hopeful that with clarity and communication there will be little need for enforcement activity by the HOA. We will post violation notices on vehicles and issue other communications when necessary. Also, the City of Alexandria has the authority to issue parking citations for vehicles parked on our interior streets in violation of the emergency vehicle easement granted to the City when Rivergate was developed in 1995. This is the basis for the “No Parking” signs posted throughout the community.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Board of Directors, Rivergate Homeowner's Association