C20-2023-010 Eliminate Minimum Parking Requirements

Dan Hennessey | Consulting Engineer | November 2, 2023
“BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN: The City Council initiates amendments to City Code Title 25 (Land Development) to eliminate minimum off-street motor vehicle parking requirements in the City.”

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The City Manager is directed to return with recommendations for developments proposing no on-site parking that allow for accessible parking spaces on-street, adjacent to or reasonably nearby the development and located on an accessible route. The recommendations should ensure accessible parking spaces comply with all design, accessibility, and location requirements of the ADA and FHAA, as appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The City Manager is directed to return with an ordinance for Council consideration no later than December 31, 2023.”
Recommended by Staff

• Consistent with City goals around housing affordability and sustainability.
  • Surface parking spaces cost $5,000 to $10,000 per space to construct.
  • Structured parking spaces cost $25,000 to $60,000 per space to construct.
  • The provision of vehicle parking spaces is strongly linked to mode choice

• Austin Strategic Mobility Plan:
  • “Minimum parking requirements have resulted in an overabundance of parking in many locations throughout Austin and have continued to encourage people to drive to their destination. These parking spaces are expensive to build and maintain, and promote automobile use even when short trips can be easily accessed by walking, bicycling, or by taking transit.”

• Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint:
  • “…the City of Austin can address several important City goals such as lower construction costs, reduced dependence on automobiles, mitigation of flood and erosion, and water quality protection. Requiring that new developments include significant off-street parking add to the cost of construction and limit the number of units possible on a site.”
Schedule for Adoption

- City Council Resolution – May 4 (recommended 10-1)
- Planning Commission Briefing – August 29 (no action)
- Codes and Ordinances Joint Committee – September 20 (recommended 5-2)
- Urban Transportation Commission – October 3 (recommended 8-0)
- Planning Commission Public Hearing – October 10 (recommended 9-0-1)
- City Council Public Hearing – November 2
Title 25 – Land Development

Chapter 25-1 – General Requirements and Procedures

Chapter 25-2 – Zoning

Chapter 25-3 – Traditional Neighborhood District

Chapter 25-4 – Subdivision

Chapter 25-5 – Site Plans

Chapter 25-6 – Transportation

Chapter 25-7 – Drainage

Chapter 25-8 – Environment

Chapter 25-9 – Water and Wastewater

Chapter 25-10 – Sign Regulations

Chapter 25-11 – Building, Demolition, and Relocation Permits; Special Req’s for Historic Structures

Chapter 25-12 – Technical Codes

Chapter 25-13 – Airport Hazard and Compatible Land Use Regulations
Changes to Section 25-2, Zoning

Minimum Parking Requirements Removed

- § 25-2-519 Commercial-Residential Development
- § 25-2-772 Single-Family Attached Residential Use
- § 25-2-780 Multifamily Residential Use
- § 25-2-831 College or University
- § 25-2-900 Home Occupations
- § 25-2-1205 Site Development Regulations for Mobile Home Parks
- § 25-2-1504 Neighborhood Mixed Use Building Regulations
- § 25-2-1556 Multifamily and Condominium Regulations
- § 25-2-1566 Commercial Use Parking Requirements
- Subchapter E, § 4.3.3.E – Height, Dimensional and Parking Requirements for Vertical Mixed Use Buildings
Changes to Section 25-2, Zoning

References to Minimum Parking Requirements Removed/Modified

- § 25-2-91 Purposes of Commercial Districts Designations
- § 25-2-121 Purposes of Industrial District Designations
- § 25-2-181 Corridor Overlay (COR) District Purpose and Boundaries
- § 25-2-312 CURE Combining District Regulations
- § 25-2-356 Historic Area Combining District Regulations
- § 25-2-441 Planned Development Areas Generally
- § 25-2-474 Required Findings
- § 25-2-766.14 Parking Regulations (Transit-Oriented Development District Regulations)
- § 25-2-773 Duplex Residential Use
- § 25-2-807 Special Use in Historic District
- § 25-2-818 Mobile Retail Establishments
- § 25-2-865 Light Manufacturing Use
- § 25-2-897 Accessory Uses for a Principal Civic Use
- § 25-2-924 Conditions of Approval
- § 25-2-947 Nonconforming Use Regulation Groups
- § 25-2-1052 Exceptions

- Subchapter E, § 2.3.1
- Subchapter E, § 4.3.3.F and .G
- Subchapter E, § 4.3.5.A
- Subchapter E, § 4.3.5.B.a and .c
- Subchapter E, § 4.3.5.C.1.a and .b
- Subchapter E, § 4.3.5.C.2.a and .b
- Subchapter E, § 4.3.5.C.5
- Subchapter F, § 3.3.2
Changes to Section 25-3, Traditional Neighborhood District

Minimum Parking Requirements Removed
• § 25-3-83 Parking

Changes to Section 25-4, Subdivision

Minimum Parking Requirements Removed
• § 25-4-232 Small Lot Subdivisions
• § 25-4-233 Single-Family Attached Residential Subdivision

Changes to Section 25-5, Site Plans

References to Minimum Parking Requirements Removed/Modified
• § 25-5-2 Site Plan Exemptions
• § 25-5-145 Evaluation of Conditional Use Site Plan
Changes to Section 25-6, Transportation

Article 7 (Off-Street Parking and Loading)

Minimum Parking Requirements Removed

• § 25-6-471 Off-Street Parking Facility Required
• § 25-6-474 Parking Facility for Persons with Disabilities
• § 25-6-593 Provisions for Property in the Central Urban Redevelopment (CURE) Combining District Area
• § 25-6-611 Parking Requirements for a Transit Oriented Development District
Changes to Section 25-6, Transportation

Article 7 (Off-Street Parking and Loading)

References to Minimum Parking Requirements Removed/Modified

• § 25-6-472 Parking Facility Standards
• § 25-6-473 Modification of Parking Requirement
• § 25-6-476 Parking for Mixed Use Developments
• § 25-6-477 Bicycle Parking
• § 25-6-478 Motor Vehicle Reductions General
• § 25-6-501 Off-Site Parking
• § 25-6-502 Application and Approval
• § 25-6-531 Off-Street Loading Facility Required
• § 25-6-532 Off-Street Loading Standards
• § 25-6-591 Parking Provisions for Development in the Central Business District (CBD), the Downtown Mixed Use (DMU) District, the Public (P) Zoning Districts, and the University Neighborhood Overlay (UNO) District
• § 25-6-601 Parking Requirements for University Neighborhood Overlay District
# Accessible Parking Spaces

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## Table 1106.1 Accessible Parking Spaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Parking Spaces Provided in Parking Facilities</th>
<th>Required Minimum Number of Accessible Spaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 to 25</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 to 50</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 to 75</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76 to 100</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101 to 150</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>151 to 200</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>201 to 300</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301 to 400</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>401 to 500</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>501 to 1,000</td>
<td>2% of total 10-20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,001 and over</td>
<td>20, plus one for each 100, or fraction thereof, over 1,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2021 International Building Code

TRANSPORTATION PUBLIC WORKS
## Accessible Parking Spaces

### Example Calculations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed New Code Requirement for Accessible Spaces</th>
<th>Current Code Requirement for Accessible Spaces</th>
<th>Maximum Proposed Increase in Required Accessible Spaces</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Spaces Required By Code</td>
<td>Required Accessible Spaces</td>
<td>Current Provided Spaces with 40% Reduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>30</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>750</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 1-25 Spaces Required per Current LDC requirements: No change in accessible spaces
- 26-75 Spaces Required: 0 or 1 additional accessible spaces required*
- 76-524 Spaces Required: 0 to 2 additional accessible spaces required*

*If previously available reductions from minimum parking requirements were utilized