



Office of the City Manager

PUBLIC HEARING
April 29, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
Submitted by: Terrance Davis, Director, Public Works
Subject: Implement Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) Program on the 1500 Block of Virginia Street

RECOMMENDATION

Conduct a public hearing and upon its conclusion, adopt a Resolution amending Resolution No. 56,508-N.S. Section 25P by adding a subsection to implement Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) on the south side of Virginia Street, between California and Eola streets (1528-1546 Virginia Street) in RPP Area N.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Implementing RPP on this block would require installation of two signs, costing the City approximately \$500 including labor. Revenues from permits and enforcement will offset anticipated costs.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Residents of 1528-1546 Virginia Street have submitted a petition to join the RPP Program in RPP Area N. As shown in Attachment 3, the block requesting to opt into the RPP Program is the south side of Virginia Street between California and Eola streets.

In accordance with Berkeley Municipal Code (BMC) Section 14.72.050(A)(1), staff verified that residents submitted signatures on a qualifying petition representing a numerical majority of residentially zoned parcels wishing to “opt-in” to the RPP Program for the street section listed above and in the attached Resolution. Staff verified that at least 75% of the curb parking spaces were occupied during either mid-morning or mid-afternoon observation periods at the location.

The addition of the south side of one block in Area N should have a minimal impact on enforcement capabilities, as RPP restrictions are already in place nearby. Each new addition to the RPP Program, however, tends to result in slightly diminished enforcement for all other existing permit areas, due to parking enforcement officers having slightly larger areas to patrol.

BACKGROUND

The RPP Program was instituted in 1980 to:

- 1) Protect Berkeley residential neighborhoods from an influx of non-resident vehicles and related traffic;
- 2) To assure continued quality of life for residents; and
- 3) To provide neighborhood parking for residents.

In most areas, the Program limits parking for vehicles not displaying an RPP permit to two hours, and reserves available daytime parking for residents, from 8 a.m.-7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on some blocks, Saturday.

The RPP Program allows residents within RPP Program boundaries to petition the City to “opt-in” or “opt-out” of the Program. The process to install RPP controls requires submittal of a petition signed by residents, including tenants of rental properties, of at least 51% of dwellings sited along the affected block, and a parking survey of those blocks that shows at least 75% of available on-street parking spaces are occupied during the mid-morning and mid-afternoon time periods.

The RPP Program is a Strategic Plan Priority Project, advancing our goal to be a customer-focused organization that provides excellent, timely, easily-accessible service and information to the community.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

Expansion of the RPP Program to include additional blocks may have a minor beneficial environmental effect. Incremental expansion of the RPP Program may make alternative transportation options more attractive. A modal shift by commuters to walking, bicycling, public transportation, or carpooling may also lead to a decrease in greenhouse gasses.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Because the required number of households on the subject blocks have signed a petition, and as parking surveys show more than 75% occupancy of curbside parking, these blocks meet the requirements set forth by the BMC for inclusion into the RPP Program.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

Council may allow unrestricted parking to remain on these streets. However, Council has previously approved the “opting in” of blocks where the requisite number of households signed a petition requesting RPP control, and where the parking utilization exceeds 75%.

CONTACT PERSON

Wahid Amiri, Deputy Director, Public Works, (510) 981-6396
Elliott Schwimmer, Senior Planner, Public Works, (510) 981-7066
Grayson Savoie, Intern, Public Works (510), 981-7055

[Internal](#)

Implement Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) Program on the
1500 Block of Virginia Street

PUBLIC HEARING
April 29, 2025

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Public Hearing Notice
3. Map of Street Section Opting Into the RPP Program

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

IMPLEMENT RESIDENTIAL PREFERENTIAL PARKING (RPP) PROGRAM ON
VIRGINIA STREET BETWEEN CALIFORNIA AND EOLA STREETS

WHEREAS, Berkeley Municipal Code Section 14.72.050.A.1, Designation of a Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) Area, allows residents to petition the City to "opt-in" or "opt-out" of the program and requires submittal of a petition containing signatures of residents of at least 51% of residentially zoned parcels on the affected block; and

WHEREAS, residents of at least 51% of the dwellings on the following block has petitioned to "opt-in" to the RPP Program:

1. South side of Virginia Street between Eola Street and California Street (1528-1546 Virginia Street);

WHEREAS, staff has conducted field observations and determined at least 75% of available on-street parking spaces are occupied during the mid-morning and mid-afternoon time periods; and

WHEREAS, the designation of these blocks as a residential permit parking area will not be detrimental to the health, safety, peace, morals, comfort and general welfare of persons residing in the area designated.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the following subsection of Section 25 of Resolution No. 56,508-N.S. are hereby added to read as follows:

Section 25P VIRGINIA STREET, south side between Eola Street and California Street

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
BERKELEY CITY COUNCIL**

**EXTEND RESIDENTIAL PREFERENTIAL PARKING PROGRAM TO
1500 BLOCK OF VIRGINIA STREET BETWEEN CALIFORNIA AND
EOLA STREETS**

The Department of Public Works is proposing to conduct a public hearing and, if recommendations are approved, adopt a Resolution amending Section 25P of Resolution No. 56,508-N.S. by adding a subsection to extend residential preferential parking on the south side of the 1500 block of Virginia Street between Eola Street and California Street.

The Residential Preferential Parking (RPP) Program allows for residents to petition the City to "opt-in" or "opt-out" of the Program. Complying with program requirements, residents of the block under consideration for opting into the RPP Program have submitted the qualifying signatures on a petition and also have at least 75% of the curb spaces occupied during the morning and mid-afternoon observation periods. Adding a block within the existing residential study area boundaries through evaluations by an EIR study certified on September 27, 1988, and in accordance with California Environment Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, are categorically exempt as defined by Section 15.162(c).

The hearing will be held on April 29, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the School District Board Room located at 1231 Addison Street, Berkeley, CA 94702.

A copy of the agenda material for this hearing will be available on the City's website at <https://berkeleyca.gov/> as of April 17, 2025. **Once posted, the agenda for this meeting will include a link for public participation using Zoom video technology, as well as any health and safety requirements for in-person attendance.**

For further information, please contact Elliott Schwimmer, Senior Planner at (510) 981-7066. Written comments should be mailed or delivered directly to the City Clerk, 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704, or e-mailed to council@berkeleyca.gov in order to ensure delivery to all Councilmembers and inclusion in the agenda packet.

Communications to the Berkeley City Council are public record and will become part of the City's electronic records, which are accessible through the City's website. **Please note: e-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required, but if included in any communication to the City Council, will become part of the public record.** If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the City Clerk. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please

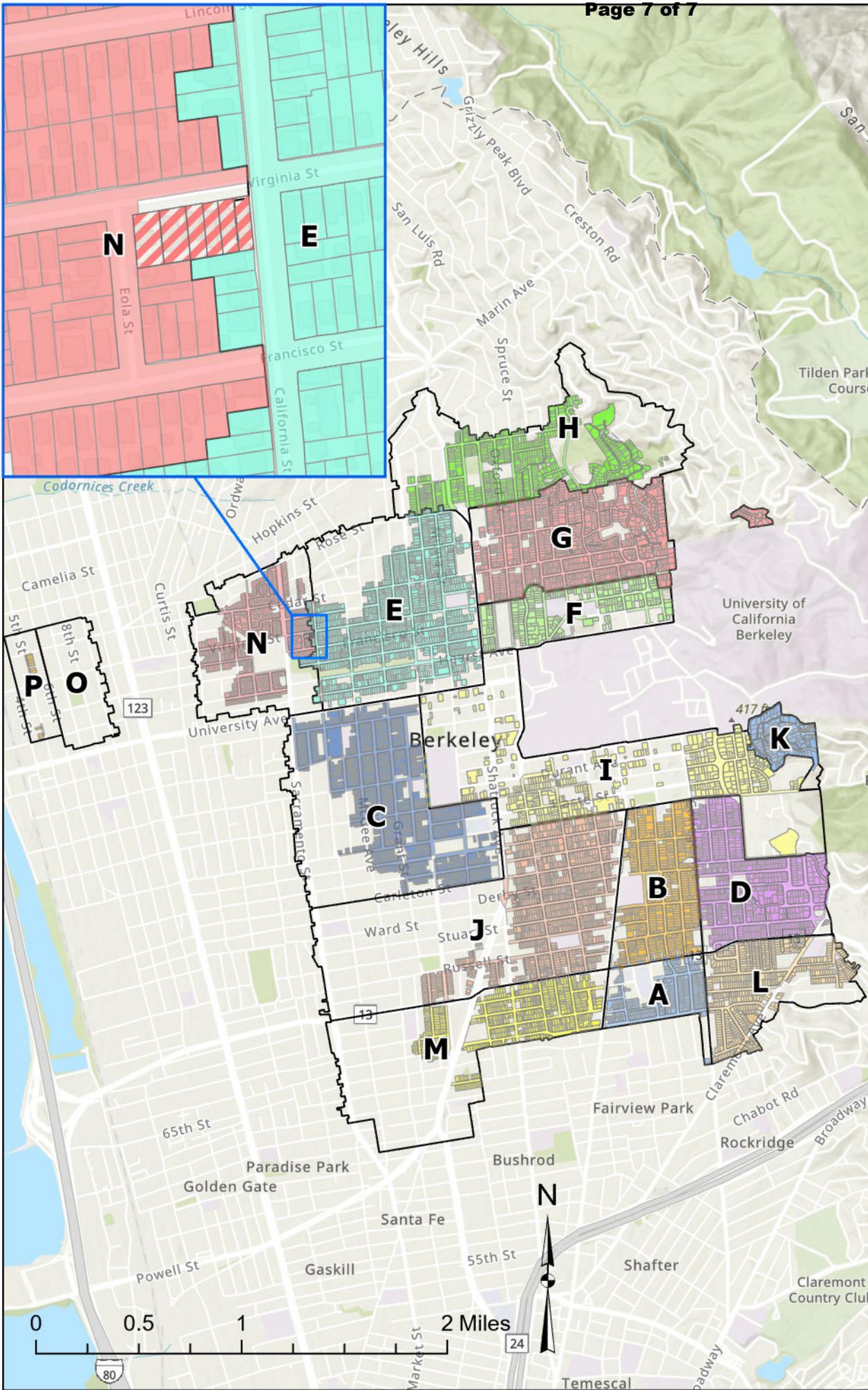
contact the City Clerk at (510) 981-6900 or clerk@berkeleyca.gov for further information.

Posted by: April 19, 2025 - Pursuant to Berkeley Municipal Code Chapter 14.72

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I hereby certify that the Notice for this Public Hearing of the Berkeley City Council was posted at the display case located near the walkway in front of the Maudelle Shirek Building, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, as well as on the City's website, on April 17, 2025

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Mark Numainville, City Clerk

# ATTACHMENT 3



**Parcels Opting Into Area N**

Currently Eligible Parcels

A

B

C

D

E

F

G

H

I

J

K

L

M

N

P

RPP Areas

This map is for reference purposes only.

Care was taken in the creation of this map, but it is provided "AS IS".

Please contact the City of Berkeley to verify map information or to report any errors.

February 5, 2025



**CITY OF BERKELEY**  
Transportation Division  
1947 Center Street  
Berkeley CA 94704

