

NW FAQs

What is the Northwest District Parking Management Plan? The [Northwest District Parking Management Plan](#) is a plan designed to address parking issues in the district. The plan is the result of several years of collaboration among city staff, residents and businesses. The plan's goal is to manage the on-street parking system based on best practices and data. The plan created a metered area and expanded the permit district.

When was the plan adopted? It was adopted by City Council in July 2013.

Who administers the Northwest District Parking Management Plan? The NW Parking Stakeholder Advisory Committee advises the Portland Bureau of Transportation on changes to the management tools and expenditures of funds.

Who is the NW Parking Stakeholder Advisory Committee (NW SAC)? The SAC formed in 2014 and members were appointed by Commissioner Novick. The members include 4 representatives from Northwest District Association (NWDA), 4 representatives from Nob Hill Business Association (NHBA), and 5 At-large individuals.

What is the NW SAC's mission? The NW SAC's mission is to advise the City on transportation and parking issues in NW and support a full range of transportation options within the context of neighborhood livability and economic vitality with the goal of efficiently managing parking and reducing reliance on single-occupancy vehicles. The NW SAC evaluates district transportation needs and priorities and sets forth priority projects and programs to support and facilitate more efficient transportation access. A current example is the Transportation Wallet. The Wallet currently includes a \$100 TriMet Hop Card, annual Streetcar membership and an annual BIKETOWN membership. The Wallet is offered to permit holders that opt out of renewing their parking permits and are available for sale to all residents and employees in the NW Parking District for \$99.

When are the NW SAC meetings and what is typically discussed at these meetings? The NW SAC meets monthly to discuss matters related to the plan. Meetings occur on the third Wednesdays of the month from 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM at Friendly House, 1737 NW 26th Ave. They receive status updates on meters and permits and review requests/exceptions. They also develop a list of transportation related projects and programs for the District to use net meter revenues and the permit surcharge. Meeting agendas, summaries and materials are posted on the www.nwportlandparking.com web page under the SAC tab.

What is PBOT's role with the NW SAC? PBOT provides executive and administrative support to the NW SAC. PBOT supports NW SAC meeting with materials and updates, sends final agendas and meeting notes to interested parties, and leads the projects selected by the NW SAC.

What is the Zone M Area Parking Permit Program? It is a permit program that allows permit holders to exceed the signed visitor limit in the permit zone. Visitors have to follow the posted visitor limit whether that time is free or paid. Permits are not valid for pay to park only areas on or near NW 21st and NW 23rd Avenues and some future blocks on NW 18th and 19th Avenues. Currently the permit program hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Saturday

Who can get a Zone M permit? Residents and businesses in the NW District can apply for parking permits.

Who administers the permits? Portland Bureau of Transportation issues and enforces parking permits.

Where does the administration fee of \$75 go? The administration fee is the cost of issuing the permits and enforcing the permit area.

Why is there an increase in the permit fee? To better manage on-street parking in Zone M, the NW Parking SAC recommended introducing a surcharge on parking permits for the permit year beginning September 1, 2017. The surcharge applies to both business and resident permits.

Is there a low-income provision? Yes, if a resident meets 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI) identified by the Portland Housing Bureau [here](#) then you will not need to pay the surcharge and are eligible for a \$75 permit. Low-income self-certification does not apply for residents renewing more than one vehicle.

Where does the permit surcharge of \$120 go? The surcharge will be spent within the NW Parking area on Transportation Demand Management (TDM) to further support the goal of decreasing parking demand, funds from permit sales will go to improving transit, bicycling, and streetcar options for residents and employees in the Northwest District.

What is TDM? Transportation demand management is the application of strategies and policies to reduce travel demand. Clear, consistent, performance-based Transportation and Parking Demand Management (TDM) can effectively reduce traffic and parking demand while increasing walking, bicycling, and transit use. TDM includes incentives such as reduced cost transit passes and bike share. Transportation Demand Management is one of the quickest, least expensive, and most effective strategies to reduce or prevent traffic and parking problems.

I don't want to renew my parking permit, is there something I can get for opting out of a permit? If a resident chooses to not renew their parking permit, they can opt to receive a Transportation Wallet which includes:

- \$150 TriMet Hop Card
- Annual BIKETOWN Membership
- Annual Portland Streetcar Pass
- \$25 car2go credit

How can I provide input on the spending of the surcharge? The NW SAC welcomes public input! You can attend NW SAC meetings on the third Wednesdays of the month from 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM at Friendly House, 1737 NW 26th Ave. The NW SAC will also coordinate community outreach events for the project list which will be open to the public.

When does data collection and analysis occur? Data collection and analysis occurs annually in the fall. A consultant conducts data collection, prepares data analysis and develops recommendations for reformatting the parking program based on best parking practices. The reformatting recommendations include changes to the on-street parking time stays, meters, hours of operation, and permit reduction.

Why are there upcoming permit changes for Zone M? Every fall, after data is collected and analyzed, it is reviewed by the SAC. Based on the analysis, recommendations are made to make changes to the on-street system and permit program. Recommendations might include expanding the metered area or reducing permits to both residents and employees. In December 2016 Council passed ordinance 188173 that allowed NW to develop a pilot program to implement additional tools to manage on-street parking. The additional tools include: Permit surcharge fee, capping the total number of permits issued, limiting annual issuance of residential permits and annual Transportation Demand Management (TDM) surveys.

How are residential permits being reduced? The number of resident permits allowed per address will be reduced proportionately by the number of off-street parking spaces available to that address*. Residential permit applicants will complete an off-street declaration form with their application.

- Households in buildings with certificates of occupancy (CO) after August 7, 2013 would be eligible to receive a minimum of one permit per household.
- Permits may be issued to an address instead of a vehicle, allowing flexibility for sharing the permit between vehicles.
- Residents of buildings with paid off-street parking who meet the 80% Area Median Income (AMI) are eligible to buy one parking permit at the low-income rate.
**August 8, 2013 is when the NW Parking Management Plan was adopted.*
- For new residential applicants there is a limit of one permit per licensed driver, maximum of three permits per address.

What if I currently have more than one permit? Does the limit of one permit per licensed driver apply to me? Residents that currently have more than one permit are eligible to renew their permits at a tiered price (permit prices below). The off-street declaration form will work in

conjunction with this rule. Therefore, a current resident may be eligible for less permits if off-street parking is available to them.

- 1st permit: \$195
- 2nd permit: \$390
- 3rd permit and thereafter: \$585

Where does the net meter revenue go? Fifty-one percent of net meter revenue derived from the NW District will be allocated through the City budget process for projects, programs and services within the NW District that support transportation policies and objectives. Some examples of the projects include:

- NW in Motion Circulation & Safety Study
- Infrastructure projects such as curb extensions, improved crosswalks
- Shared parking projects such as improved signage and paystations

What are the time limits in Zone M? The parking plan has three different “time stays”: four hours, two hours and 30 minutes. Four hours is the base time stay because it allows time for people to visit several businesses, eat a meal, see a movie, etc. On NW 21st and NW 23rd, about 80 percent of the meters are four hours. Two-hour time stays are mixed in to increase turnover in busy areas — so more people can find available parking. Residentially zoned streets will have one 30-minute short-term space at one corner of each block face. These are to make it easier for loading and unloading vehicles, and other short-term uses.

What are the enforcement times for permits and meters? Permit and meter parking runs from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday and 1.5 hours before all regular season [Timber soccer home games](#) through 2-hours after game time. Outside those hours, including all day on Sundays, anyone can park in any metered or permit-only space for free.

When will parking structures be built? Parking structures are being evaluated for future construction. They are expensive capital projects. There is a subcommittee that looks for opportunities to share future parking built with developments. The NW SAC and Portland Bureau of Transportation will continue to manage the on-street system based on best practices and data. This includes implementing TDM Measures, utilizing the current off-street parking supply, and utilizing additional tools to manage the on-street parking prior to moving forward with a parking structure. If interested, contact the NW Parking District Liaison.

Where do I go for more information on the Northwest District Parking Management Plan and Zone M? For more information, please go to www.nwportlandparking.com.