



City of Murrieta City Council Policy

POLICY: RED CURB USAGE

POLICY NO.: 100-13

DATE: April 3, 2012

PURPOSE

The City of Murrieta Municipal Code Section 10.32.030 authorizes the City Traffic Engineer to establish the location of no stopping zones and no parking areas. Based on this section of the code, the use of red curb and supplemental signage is used to accomplish one or more of the following:

1. Establish turn lanes.
2. Establish vehicle maneuvering zones.
3. Establish sight clearance zones.

City of Murrieta Municipal Code Section 10.32.070 authorizes the City Traffic Engineer to establish no parking zones at the following:

4. Adjacent to schools where such parking would interfere with traffic or create a hazardous situation.

Also, City of Murrieta Municipal Code Section 10.50.020 allows for infraction and/or removal of parked vehicles when parked in a designated fire lane.

Additionally, City of Murrieta Municipal Code Section 10.32.230 authorizes the City Traffic Engineer to prohibit, regulate, or limit stopping, standing, or parking of vehicles on the basis of an engineering and traffic survey.

No stopping zones and no parking zones for purposes other than specified above shall be established by resolution of the City Council.

1. ESTABLISHING TURN LANES

General

It is sometimes necessary, due to capacity or accident history, to prohibit parking. The removal of parking will allow left-turn and right-turn lanes and will eliminate the restrictive influences caused by side friction from parked cars.

Engineering Judgment

When determining whether a parking prohibition is warranted, the following items should be considered:

- a) Existing and future traffic volumes.
- b) Parking demand.
- c) Availability of alternate parking.

- d) Accident history.
- e) Street geometry/street width.
- f) Fronting land uses.
- g) Other.

2. ESTABLISHING VEHICLE MANEUVERING ZONES

General

Where a parked vehicle has the potential to cause unsafe movements by passing vehicles, it may be necessary to restrict parking movements.

Engineering Judgment

Parking prohibitions may be necessary if any of the following conditions exist:

- a) A parked vehicle forces a passing vehicle to make unsafe movements within an intersection as it maneuvers past the parked vehicle.
- b) A parked vehicle forces a passing vehicle to cross the centerline of the roadway or the double-yellow stripe, causing the passing vehicle to travel into the path of oncoming traffic.
- c) A vehicle parked at the approach to a traffic signal, where it is parked on top of the traffic signal loop detectors within the pavement, may cause constant vehicle calls to the traffic signal. This negatively effects the operations of the traffic signal, and may increase the potential for waiting motorists to execute unsafe movements they would not otherwise make if the signal were functioning properly.

3. ESTABLISHING SIGHT CLEARANCE ZONES

General

At intersections and at driveways, vehicles parked at the curb can limit visibility for drivers so as to create a hazardous condition. To correct this, it may be necessary to remove parking from the vicinity of the intersection or driveway.

Engineering Judgment

The following list of conditions is intended to serve as an aid in determining whether parking prohibitions are warranted to increase visual clearance:

- a) Sight obstructions within the line of sight for a vehicle turning from the minor street onto the major street.
- b) Demonstrated accident history (accidents correctable by increasing sight distance or turning radius).

- c) Type of vehicle using street parking – continuous parking by recreational vehicles or other large vehicles which obscure sight distance (refer to City of Murrieta Municipal Code Sections 10.32.140 and 10.32.180).
- d) Continuous use of on-street parking – a continuous line of parked vehicles (at or near 100 percent) without breaks.
- e) Volume of traffic using driveway and character of road.
- f) Type of vehicle using driveway and area. Industrial areas for example may require additional clearance for large turning trucks.
- g) Physical constraints beyond the control of the property owner(s) or City (fence or wall on adjacent property, etc.).
- h) Character of driveway user (i.e. driveway for a senior living facility may require additional sight distance/clearance).
- i) Availability of alternate parking.
- j) Other unusual conditions – may be added or considered when apparent.

Determination of the extent of parking prohibition required to achieve adequate visibility will be by commonly accepted engineering methods. Data necessary for this determination would include but may not be limited to the following:

- i.) 85th percentile speed.
- ii.) Grades and curves.
- iii.) Road surface condition.
- iv.) Intersection geometry.

4. SCHOOL ZONES

General

Due to the greater density of vehicular traffic during the drop-off and pick-up periods of a typical school day, it is sometimes necessary to prohibit parking, stopping, standing, loading, or unloading of passenger adjacent to schools where such movements would interfere with traffic or create a hazardous situation.

Engineering Judgment

When determining whether a parking prohibition is warranted within the vicinity of a school, the following items should be considered:

- a) Turn lanes.
- b) Drop-off and pick-up patterns.
- c) Pedestrian crossing locations.
- d) Safe Routes to School maps.

LOCATIONS WHERE RED CURB IS NOT TYPICALLY NECESSARY

Red curb generally is not necessary for enforcement at the following locations, due to provisions contained within the California Vehicle Code (CVC):

- a) Fire Hydrants – Vehicles parked within 15 feet of a fire hydrant are subject to ticket and possible removal per CVC sections 22514 and 22651, respectively.
- b) Driveways – Vehicles parked in front of a public or private driveway are subject to ticket and possible removal per CVC sections 22500(e) and 22651, respectively.

Red curb is not typically installed adjacent to mailboxes (if necessary, the curb may be painted white in accordance with Section 21458 of the CVC).

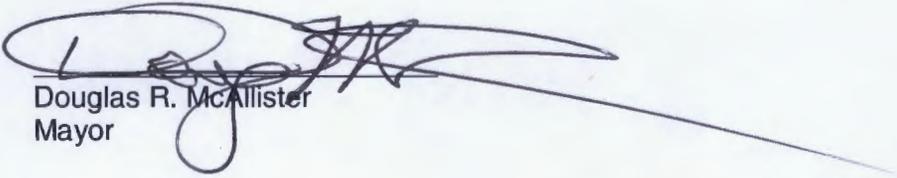
Where possible, it is the City's intent to enforce parking within residential neighborhoods through use of the above mentioned sections of the CVC, in order to maintain the residential character of the neighborhoods and to reduce excessive maintenance costs if not necessary.

CITY INSTALLED RED CURB

For all new red curb installations, as well as the maintenance of existing red curb locations, the City shall install a stenciled "Gem of the Valley" Murrieta logo, to aid in the identification of City installed red curb.

HISTORY

Adopted March 6, 2012



Douglas R. McAllister
Mayor