



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**

**Public Works Department**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Kurt Triplett, City Manager  
**From:** Ray Steiger, P.E., Interim Public Works Director  
**Date:** January 6, 2011  
**Subject:** Hotel Business loading zone ordinance

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached ordinance amending the Kirkland Municipal Code (KMC) to establish a new "Hotel Business Loading Zone."

BACKGROUND:

Currently KMC 12.45.230 authorizes the administration of parking infractions for a number of specific situations; included within this list is parking in a loading zone. Growth in the hotel business in Kirkland, specifically those offering valet parking as a part of their services, has identified a lack of clarity with respect to valet parking and conflict with the KMC as it is currently written; specifically as it relates to parking situated immediately adjacent to a hotel entrance.

The attached ordinance, developed with input from the Parking Advisory Board, and stakeholders including downtown hoteliers, is intended to modify the KMC to allow for improved operations for this unique segment of the commercial sector while at the same time preserving other valuable on-street public parking and commercial loading and unloading.

The ordinance creates a new "Hotel Business Loading Zone" that reserves space in the zone for hotel business related uses. The zone allows hotel business related vehicles and valet vehicles to be parked in the zone and moved in and out of the zone with no time limits other than the prohibition of overnight parking in the zone. The ordinance requires that vehicles left in the zone be identified as hotel business related through the use of clearly identifiable placards or other methods visible to parking enforcement. Vehicles in the zone without such identification will be subject to enforcement. However, hotel related vehicles outside of the zone will be subject to the same enforcement as any other vehicle.

A Hotel Business Loading Zone is established (and revoked) by either the Police Chief or the Public Works Director.

ORDINANCE 4291

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND RELATING TO HOTEL BUSINESS LOADING ZONES AND ADDING CHAPTER 12.50 TO THE KIRKLAND MUNICIPAL CODE.

The City Council of the City of Kirkland do ordain as follows:

Section 1. A new Chapter 12.50, "Hotel Business Loading Zones" is added to the Kirkland Municipal Code Chapter to read as follows:

**12.50.010 Definitions.**

For the purpose of this chapter:

(1) "Hotel business loading zone" means a designated location on the public right-of-way adjacent to a hotel entrance or exit reserved for use by vehicles loading and unloading hotel business related persons or commodities and for providing temporary hotel parking necessary to implement hotel valet parking services.

(2) "Overnight parking" means the parking of a vehicle in a hotel business loading zone for a period exceeding three hours a day at any time during the hours from ten p.m. to eight a.m. of the following day.

(3) "Person" means every natural person, firm, partnership, corporation, association or organization.

(4) To park (or stand) a vehicle. There is a prima facie presumption that the registered owner of a violator vehicle was the person who parked such vehicle.

(5) "Hotel valet parking service" means a hotel, or independent contractor, which provides a driver to operate a vehicle to and from a parking location so that the driver and passengers in the vehicle may unload and load at the hotel.

(6) "Vehicle" means every device capable of being moved upon a public highway and in, upon or by which any person, or property, shall or may be transported or drawn upon any public highway excepting devices moved by human power.

**12.50.020 Hotel business loading zones regulated.**

(a) Hotel business loading zones shall only be allowed along the city street adjacent to hotel entrances and exits and shall at all times be reserved for use by hotel business related vehicles, both commercial and noncommercial, in loading and unloading hotel business related persons or commodities and provision of hotel valet parking services.

(b) The hotel valet parking service shall record the vehicle license numbers of vehicles which are in the custody or control of the hotel valet parking service and shall identify such vehicles by placard or similar device visibly displayed in the window of the vehicle.

(c) Hotel business loading zones shall not be used for overnight parking.

(d) It is a civil infraction for any person to park or stand a vehicle as follows:

(1) In a hotel business loading zone for a purpose other than temporarily stopping to load and unload hotel business related persons or commodities;

(2) In a hotel business loading zone, unattended, unless a placard or other device clearly identifying the vehicle as hotel business related allowing for such parking, as required in this section, is visibly displayed in the window of the vehicle.

**12.50.030 Hotel business loading zones to be designated and signed.**

The chief of police or delegate or the director of public works or delegate is authorized to designate hotel business loading zones. Such designation shall be shown by signage and other appropriate indicators marking the limits of the hotel business loading zone.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be in force and effect five days from and after its passage by the Kirkland City Council and publication, as required by law.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this 18th day of January, 2011.

Signed in authentication thereof this 18th day of January, 2011.

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MAYOR

Attest:

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City Clerk

Approved as to Form:

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City Attorney