

CITY OF CONCORD

 $New\ Hampshire$'s $Main\ Street^{ ext{TM}}$ Community Development Department

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

From: Timothy J. Thompson, AICP, Assistant Director of Community Development

Date: August 16, 2024

Subject: Parking Ordinance Amendments (Law Enforcement Only Parking on Pleasant

Street at Federal Complex)

Recommendation:

Set the attached ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, by amending Article 18-3, Parking Meters, Schedule X, and Section 18-1-24, Parking — Law Enforcement Vehicles, Schedule XXI for public hearing on October 15, 2024.

Background:

On June 17, 2019, the City Council enacted Ordinance #3044, which eliminated law enforcement only parking on sections of Pleasant Street along portions of the Federal Building and Courthouse. Law enforcement parking at this location was originally established in July 2002 as part of enhanced security measures enacted at the federal complex following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. In accordance with the recommendations of the 2017 Strategic Parking Plan, it was replaced with 10 hour metered parking.

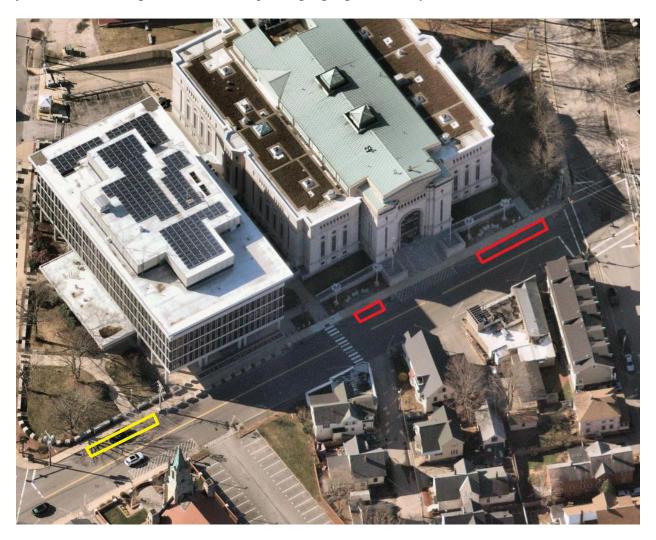
Law Enforcement Parking was removed and replaced with metered parking in mid-January 2020. Shortly after the change occurred, the U.S. Marshal's Office contacted the City objecting to the change due to security concerns. The Marshal's Office verbally requested that Law Enforcement Parking be re-established at this location. After review in early 2020 by the Parking Committee, the City Council enacted Ordinance #3071 on May 11, 2020, which re-established law enforcement parking as it existed prior to its removal in January 2020.

In April of 2024, the U.S. Marshal for NH, Bill Hart, contacted City Staff requesting that an additional 4 spaces of on-street law enforcement parking was needed by the Marshal's staff, due to staff growth in the Marshal's office and other federal agencies. Mr. Hart indicated that this created a situation where the Marshal's vehicles are unable to respond in appropriate timeframes to emergency situations (such as the State Hospital shooting incident in 2023) due to the parking arrangement within the underground parking facility on the Federal complex.

Discussion:

In April and July of 2024, the City's Parking Committee reviewed the request and data provided by City Staff (see attached reports from the Parking Supervisor and Community Development to the Parking Committee).

At the July 22, 2024 Parking Committee meeting, the Committee voted unanimously to recommend that 3 additional law enforcement parking spaces be created on Pleasant Street, removing the 3 metered spaces closest to the intersection of South Street (as indicated in the photo below in yellow, with existing law enforcement parking highlighted in red).



The attached ordinance establishes law enforcement parking per the above recommendation, removing 3 metered spaces along Pleasant Street. Law enforcement only parking is valid 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.