

Offered by City Councilor Michelle Wu



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING BOSTON'S RESIDENT PARKING PERMIT PROGRAM

WHEREAS: The City of Boston's Resident Parking Program restricts on-street parking on many residential streets throughout the city to vehicles with a valid neighborhood resident parking sticker; *and*

WHEREAS: Unlike many surrounding communities and many other cities across the country, the City of Boston currently does not charge a fee to obtain a neighborhood resident parking sticker, and there is no limit on the number of resident parking stickers available per household; *and*

WHEREAS: Offering unlimited, free resident parking stickers leads to inefficient use of the valuable resource of on-street parking as well as increasing congestion and emissions from residents circling the neighborhood to find a parking spot since there are more valid parking stickers issued than available on-street parking spaces; *and*

WHEREAS: The Boston City Council's 2017 Transportation Policy Briefing Series identified parking management reforms as a priority with great potential to improve economic and environmental sustainability in the city; *and*

WHEREAS: Residents and business owners would benefit from discussing ways to improve neighborhood on-street parking, including the potential to charge a fee for parking stickers that would provide needed funding for infrastructure improvements and ways to accommodate groups currently not served by the Resident Parking Program, such as visitors, Boston Public Schools staff who serve students at multiple schools each day, small business owners, and others; *NOW*

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED,

That the relevant committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss ways to reform the on-street resident parking program to encourage efficient use of parking resources and reduce congestion and emissions from vehicles in the City, and that representatives from the Boston Transportation Department, other interested parties, and members of the public be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 24, 2018