

Columbia Place On-Street Parking Requirements

Background:

April 28, 2003, the Chapel Hill Town Council unanimously approved:

- **Eliminating parking within 50 feet of Columbia Place intersections;**
- **Changing on-street parking regulations on public streets in the Columbia Place neighborhood to “no parking anytime except by residential permit”.**

The changes amended Chapter 21 of the Town Code of Ordinances Regarding On-Street Parking. The ordinance changes were effective Monday, June 2, 2003.

No Parking within 50’ of Intersections:

The Town installed street signs to indicate that no parking is permitted within 50 feet of intersections. The Columbia Place Homeowners’ Association painted the related intersection curbs ‘No Parking’ yellow for additional identification. The change accommodates sight distances and turning radii that are needed for large routine and emergency service vehicles. It eliminates issues that have been previously experienced with garbage trucks and Fire Department vehicles accessing homes. It is important to tell guests about Columbia Place intersections, as the ‘No Parking’ area is more feet than the norm throughout NC. Safety governs.

Residential Permit Parking:

The residential permit process is managed by the Chapel Hill Parking Services Division. Residents of each unique address within Columbia Place (66 town homes) must obtain parking permit(s) at the Parking Services Office, 150 E. Rosemary Street. The Office is on the parking deck opposite the payment booth attendant. Parking Service Office hours are 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. When permits are picked up, parking time is validated by the Parking Service.

Residential parking permits are renewable annually. Permits are non-transferable, as they are assigned to a specific vehicle and license plate. To receive a permit, applicants must have a current driver’s license and valid vehicle registration papers, without any outstanding citations on the plates. Additionally, resident home owners will need to show a recent utility bill or property tax statement; while renters will have to present a copy of their rental lease indicating the names of all renters who are residents. Permits will not be issued to persons who are not listed on the rental agreement. Each renter must obtain his/her own permit. An individual resident home owner may obtain the permits for all of their registered vehicles.

Guests:

Each address is permitted two (2) guest tags. These may be picked up at the same time as the residential permit. If a renter has already picked up both tags, no additional ones will be issued to other renters at that address.

Cars on the street with guest tags for more than two (2) days will be ticketed. When guests are staying for longer periods, special visitor permits can be requested. The maximum time for long duration guests is two (2) weeks. A visitor permit, based on the license plate of the vehicle, may be obtained at the Parking Services Office.

Service vehicles with a business name on the exterior (e.g., OWASA, Duke Power, Time Warner, UPS, and Fed EX) do not need a guest permit for a service call.

Special Events:

The Chief of Police may, when special events such as a large party cause a temporary increase in the need for parking at a particular location, allow such parking if it does not threaten safety. During the time of the event, traffic parking tickets will not be issued. Application for this temporary parking should be made with Parking Services (932-2912) at least 5 days in advance of the event. The approximate duration of the event, including beginning and ending times, and a good estimate of the number of extra vehicles will be required. *Advance notification of the event to your neighbors is suggested to reduce potential complaints.*

Off-Street Parking:

A permit is **not** required to park in a garage or on a driveway. **Off-street parking is to be used first.** The overall Town goal is to assure that all residents have a place to park. Hopefully, it is space convenient to home. Most Columbia Place buildings have a driveway with permits access to the garages of two units. Parking which blocks your roof mate's garage access is precluded by Association Covenants.

Enforcement:

Vehicles parked on the street without residential permits or parked too close to an intersection will be ticketed by Chapel Hill Police and Parking Services Enforcement.

Subject to change, a \$40 ticket for each of the first four occurrences of parking a vehicle on the street without a residential permit is applicable. The fine amount then escalates. Additionally, vehicles may be towed away. Parking more than a foot from the curb, perpendicular parking, parking on the sidewalk, and parking within 15 feet of a fire hydrant also are illegal.

To report problems, call the Parking Services Office between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. At other times, call 911. During non-business hours, 911 is used within Chapel Hill to process police assistance and illegal parking reports.

Out of Town during July:

All permits expire July 1. Annual permit distribution commences July 1 and continues throughout the month. If you are out of town during July (grace period for using the old permit), pick up your permit(s) the first day of your return to Columbia Place residency.

Changing Vehicle:

If a registered vehicle is replaced, you must take your old permit to the Parking Services Office and obtain a new permit. This is true, even if the license plate remains the same, as residential permits are assigned to a unique vehicle and license plate combination.