

Council Meeting of  
**April 15, 2008**

Honorable Mayor and Members  
of the Torrance City Council  
City Hall  
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

**SUBJECT: Community Development Department and Police Department –  
Status of Parking Restrictions on Oversized Vehicles & Trailers on  
Public Streets.**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the Community Development Director and the Chief of Police that the City Council receive and file the status report of the Oversized Vehicle & Trailer Ordinance.

### **Funding**

N/A

### **BACKGROUND / ANALYSIS**

On September 12, 2006, your Honorable Body adopted Ordinance 3686 regulating the parking of Oversized Vehicles (OV) & Trailers on public streets. An oversized vehicle, as defined in Ordinance 3686, shall mean any vehicle or combination of vehicles which exceed 20 feet in length, 7 feet in width, or 8 feet in height, exclusive of projecting lights or devices allowed by Section 35109 or 35110 of the California Vehicle Code. The Ordinance exempts pick up trucks and sport utility vehicles that are less than 25 feet in length and 82 inches in height.

In January of 2007, the City began the education and implementation of the OV Ordinance by registering oversized vehicles and trailers owned by Torrance residents. Vehicles not displaying an OV Registration Sticker were left with an informational notice describing the City's OV Ordinance's background, restrictions, and implementation program. In July of 2007, enforcement began for all vehicles without an activated daily parking permit.

Since January of 2007, approximately 670 registration stickers have been issued to oversized vehicles and trailers, 50 of which were issued in 2008. Of these registered vehicles, approximately 280 residents have purchased various bundles of daily

paperless parking permits for 2008 to allow temporarily parking of their OV or trailer in front of their home. Registration stickers and daily paperless parking permits are available at the Community Development Department (CDD) and the Torrance Police Department (TPD). In addition, TPD has established a dedicated 24-hour phone line, (310) 618-5636, for residents to activate their daily paperless parking permits at their convenience.

The Police Department has issued over 800 citations to violators of the Ordinance. While the number of citations was 249 in July of 2007, it was as few as 46 in February of 2008. These citations have not gone without challenges. Per our Hearing Officer, 84 violations have been appealed. Except for one, all were found liable. In addition, 6 people have appealed a total of 10 citations to the court system, all of which were found liable by the judge.

Further, staff would like to update you with some of the primary comments from the public that have been brought to staff's attention since the implementation of the OV Ordinance:

- ***Exemption of Work-related Oversized Vehicle:*** Residents who have a Home Occupation Permit and own an oversized vehicle for their occupation, (e.g., plumbing services, painting services, masonry services) have inquired about having their vehicles exempted from the Ordinance. Some residents have expressed that this Ordinance makes it difficult to accommodate their vehicle at their residence.
- ***Relief of the Restrictions on Holidays and Weekends:*** Some residents would like to request relief from this Ordinance during holidays (e.g., Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, Armed Forces Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas) and weekends, as many residents travel or host visitors during these holidays.
- ***Relief from On-Site Parking Lots:*** Some private parking lots in the City may become too congested to accommodate some oversized vehicles. Requests have been made by residents to allow temporary parking on the adjacent public street while conducting business, shopping, or dining at these establishments.
- ***Provide the ability for residents to Purchase and Activate daily permits on-line:*** Currently, residents have the ability to pre-purchase permits by mail or in person at the Community Development Department or at the Police Department. To activate the use of a permit, residents can call the Police Department's OV Permitting hot line at (310)618-5636.

At this time, the Torrance Police, Community Development, Communication & Information Technology Departments as well as the City Treasurer's Office are collectively working together with Spillman Technologies, Inc., to bring forward an automated system that will allow the purchase of permits and activation of permits on-line.

Spillman Technologies, Inc., is exploring the capability to establish an interface that is compatible with the existing TPD secured Spillman Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD). The intent is to allow residents to pay for and activate their daily permits on-line, and allow the officers to view these activations in the field via their Mobile Digital Computer (MDC). Once the interface and programming parameters have been honed, the Police Department will return to your Honorable Body for the approval of an appropriation of funds and purchase of this technology.

To close on a positive note, since its implementation, this Ordinance has generated some very positive feedback from the public. Staff has received various letters, emails and phone calls applauding the City for its efforts to manage the long-term parking of oversized vehicles and trailers on the City streets. In addition, staff has received several inquiries from cities in southern and northern California wishing to know about the Ordinance. They were pleased with the outcome.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFERY W. GIBSON  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

CONCUR::

  
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Jeffery W. Gibson  
Community Development Director

By   
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Ted Semaan, Manager  
Transportation Planning, Development  
Engineering and Records Division

  
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John J. Neu  
Chief of Police

  
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LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager