

Dear Council

I apologize that given the abbreviated notice I am not able to attend this meeting in person. I am largely in agreement with the recommendations of the staff. However, there are two key points I believe are important.

1. First, I believe the use of the term "preferred parking" in connection with this program is a misleading one. Larkspur Marina has had a permit parking program in place for decades. This program was not instituted to give residents a preferential right to park on the City's public streets. Rather, this program was instituted as a health and safety measure, triggered in part by a traffic accident injuring a Marina resident, which was caused by a Redwood high school student.

This incident among others, highlighted the danger posed to residents, especially children and older adults, of having large numbers of young, inexperienced Redwood drivers parking and driving in the neighborhood. In addition, it was an acknowledgement that it is unfair and detrimental to property rights to allow the high school to use the neighborhood as a de facto overflow parking lot. This program has been in effect for many years and people who have purchased homes in the neighborhood relied on this program when deciding to make these purchases.

Calling this program a "preferred parking" program is not only a misnomer, but creates an unfair and misleading impression that residents are asking asking for special treatment. This is not the case, Rather, this program was a measured response to a health and safety problem.

2. Second, as this program is not a boon or special privilege granted to residents, but a health and safety measure designed to protect them, it is inappropriate to charge a high annual fee such as the one suggested by staff. Residents are not charged when the City installs stop signs or other measures to protect pedestrians, this program is no different. The restriction on parking is not designed to keep residents from parking on the street. As the hours of operation indicate, it is specifically designed to keep Redwood High School students from parking there.

Accordingly, there is no reason why residents should have to pay such a high fee to obtain a document that essentially just shows parking enforcement authorities that the restrictions do not apply to them, i.e. that their vehicles do not belong to Redwood students. Of course, the City is certainly entitled to charge a small fee to cover the additional costs of administering this program, but the amount proposed goes far beyond this. The fee proposed by the City Manager's office seems like an opportunistic attempt to generate revenue under the guise of providing "authorization" for a program it has already been operating for decades.

It should also be noted that for all of these years this program has not cost the City a dime. (Indeed, the City Manager apparently didn't even know that the program was

operating until last year, even though the City had installed and reinstalled permit parking signs for decades, and has collected thousands of dollars in parking fees.)

Finally, as we have stated before, our neighborhood association has offered to cover all administration costs of the permit program in this neighborhood, from printing and manufacturing permits themselves to keeping track of the issuance of permits.

Thanks for all of the hard work on this issue.

Best,  
Patricia Steele, Larkspur Marina

Hello, I am unable to attend the city council meeting but would like to add my voice. We have had many issues with high schoolers parking in front of our house: blocking the driveway, blocking in our trash cans so they don't get picked up for the week, driving way too fast, using poor language around all the kids who live here. One day I had to take my kids to school on the bike because I couldn't get out of the driveway.

Parking is already limited in this neighborhood and it's really inconvenient when visitors - aging grandparents, babysitters, friends - have to park far away or worse when we have kids in the car and can't park outside our house or anywhere close.

Thank you for considering measures to alleviate this situation.

Best,  
Angela and Amir Movafaghi

January 15, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Happy New Year! I'm sorry we are unable to attend the meeting. My husband and I own our home at 432 William Avenue in Larkspur. We have lived in Heather Gardens (previously at 11 Heather Way) for 6+ years. In the past few years we have watched our neighborhood become a high school parking lot.

No parking for our nanny & Guests: Every morning by 8AM there is no parking on our street.

Our nanny can't find parking on our street, our guests can't find parking on our street.

Cars blocking our driveway: It is not uncommon to have cars impeding our driveway on BOTH SIDES making it difficult for us to get in and out of our own driveway.

Speeding/Safety: Our street is frequently sped down and with cars parked on both sides, the speeding makes driving down William very dangerous at times. We have three young children- this is a very dangerous situation.

Loitering/Smoking: Every day at 745AM, again at noon and again at 230PM there is a barrage of high school students racing down the street. Some get in their cars and SPEED down the street. Others frequently sit in their cars and eat/smoke during lunch break. It is uncomfortable to have this going on immediately outside our front door. Daily there are many kids who honk or scream at their friends. Everyday kids LOITER before school and during lunch.

Property Taxes: It is not fair that we pay what we do to live in a parking lot. While our property tax bill goes up, this issue is negatively impacting our property value.

This is just not how our residential street should be used.

We implore you to restrict parking on our block and in our neighborhood to residents only.

Should you have any questions or if I can help with anything I welcome your call.

Sincerely,  
Laura & Jeremy Gray

415.515.6447

Dear Councilman Chu,

I am sad to say but the short notice of this meeting is keeping me from being there tonight. I was told by Patricia Steele that she heard about it from you today (or yesterday) as an interested party. I too am an interested party, as are the many home owners in our neighborhood. I can say that we wish we had been alerted sooner since we were the people who initially brought this matter to the council's attention.

That said, please know that we would take issue with calling our neighborhood parking permit situation "preferential parking" as we have had permit parking for many years. We are not asking for anything we do not already have. The City has been benefiting financially from our parking permits for years. The financial cost the staff has suggested is exorbitant and will not be well received by the neighborhood. Taking a \$5 charge and changing it to \$50 with no change in benefit is not fair. We have offered to take all financial responsibility from the City and Police and are only trying to make it easier for the Police to recognize who should and should not be parking. This is all because of reckless driving by Redwood students using our neighborhood as overflow parking.

I do hope that the next meeting will be advertised to the groups who requested the meetings in the first place with a bit more time to react and arrange our schedules accordingly and that it be noted our absence is not due to a lack of interest, but because of the short notice.

Thank you for your time and assistance with this matter.

Meg Rafte

Hello,

We are located on the last block of William Ave before the high schools, RWH & San Andreas. There has been no parking for myself or my guests (maids, gardeners, electrician, etc) since school for RWH resumed after break. Last week a RWH student even blocked 1/2 my driveway, when parking and left. I was going to tow it when his friend came forward and texted him to move it. (very time consuming).

I parked a block and half away from my home, after going to lucky's before 3pm. I had to carry the groceries to my home from that far away.

I also run my business from my address and I have a Larkspur business license and I have several employees that drive to my location, the others bike. I would need all day guest passes for my employees, I'm concerned how this is going to work with business permits?

[I am unable to make the meeting tonight, but be assured we need regulation and permit parking now for William Ave.](#)

Thank you,

Ann Salvetti

Hello Jaimie,

Just a brief comment regarding the parking permit discussion for this week's city council meeting.

I don't think it's fair to charge residents, near the high school, for parking permits, especially when the situation near Redwood High School is caused by the students. Residents already pay property and local taxes. When I attended Redwood, I took the Golden Gate Transit bus, walked, and rode my bike to/from school. On occasion, my parents picked me up if I had practice or other activity after normal school hours. I strongly encourage that the high school work with parents, students, and Golden Gate Transit to resolve the parking impact to nearby neighborhoods.

I'd appreciate it if my comments are forwarded to staff and city council members.

Arlene Fox

I am unable to attend the meeting but would like to have it put into the record that I have been in email contact with Assistant Principal Saum Zargar and Principal Sondheim about the continual parking in our Larkspur Marina neighborhood.

Mr. Zargar has forwarded to me the language they have on their website about parking in the neighborhoods near Redwood High School:

Please know that in all of our communication about student parking and driving, we have clear language about parking in the neighborhood. In all emails that have been sent to our students and parents, we have the following language:

- *In addition, when parking in the neighborhoods surrounding Redwood or in commercial parking lots, students should park legally and conduct themselves in a manner expected of good neighbors. Please be aware that many commercial parking lots have restrictions for customers only and students should not park in those lots during school time.*

In addition, we have the following information on our website and as part of the student parking permit application

- *When parking off campus, please pay close attention to parking restrictions on neighboring streets. Larkspur community members have been advised to contact Central Marin Police Authority (CMPA) when concerned about student parking, driving, and/or inappropriate behavior.*

It is apparent that they are condoning the parking in nearby neighborhoods. They are therefore telling the student body that our neighborhoods are in fact "overflow parking" for their school as they cannot accommodate the students in their parking areas. They have an issue with too many drivers and not enough spaces. The Larkspur Marina neighbors are now dealing with Redwood's parking issues and that seems to be the exact opposite of being good neighbors.

Please help us by helping Redwood with their parking issues.

Thank you,

Meg Rafter

I would like to comment of the above program that is being discussed at the city council meeting tonight

We live at 202 Monte Vista and have been severely impacted by the restricted parking opportunities available for street parking. The increased volume of both casual drivers and valet attendants parking on William and Monte Vista reduces the opportunity for us to park near to our house. Fridays and weekends are particularly busy. Since the popularity of both Perrys' and Pico we see a lot of their customers and employees parking in front of our house for several hours.

I reviewed the staff recommendations and would comment as follows

75% petition seems like a high bar to meet prior to discussing this. Some homeowners may be disinterested particularly if they have no vehicles . It also will be crucial to identify what is the affected area. Monte Vista and William are obvious but Madrone and other streets will be impacted. How is the city going to select the affected area?

I agree with the recommendation of no parking without a permit

I agree with a registration (yearly) for all vehicles to an affected address.

I agree with the \$50 annual fee.

Thanks for taking this on.

David Hill

## Edy O. Sennhauser

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**From:** Sondheim, David <dsondheim@tamdistrict.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 2, 2018 6:24 AM  
**To:** Edy O. Sennhauser  
**Subject:** RE: RHS Parking

Hi Edy,

Thanks for your email below. Please be aware we do not have any control over neighborhood parking permits, only Redwood High permits.

If parent drivers are illegally blocking driveways, please contact Central Marin Police for assistance as we do not have authority over city streets. We will remind our parents be sure to avoid blocking driveways when picking up students.

Thanks again,  
David

David Sondheim | Principal | **Redwood High School** | Office: 415.945.3620 | [dsondheim@tamdistrict.org](mailto:dsondheim@tamdistrict.org)

"If a person's behavior doesn't make sense to you, it is because you are missing a part of their context... It's really helpful to respond to a person's ineffective behavior with curiosity rather than judgment."

Erika Price, 2018

"This mythology of American independence — that it is self-evident that all men are created equal — is a fable we continue to repeat, but it is incomplete."

Syreeta McFadden, 2018

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**From:** Edy O. Sennhauser <[e.o.sennhauser-hydro@att.net](mailto:e.o.sennhauser-hydro@att.net)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 31, 2018 3:53 PM  
**To:** Sondheim, David <[dsondheim@tamdistrict.org](mailto:dsondheim@tamdistrict.org)>  
**Subject:** RHS Parking

I do have a copy of your Parking Policy Changes and offer the following observation regarding the "outside a 20-minute walking" rule: there are two cars showing the resident parking stickers (marked LKS) on the dashboard. These cars are driven and parked by students in the 600 block of Riviera Circle. One claims to have the sticker from one of her divorced parents living in the Larkspur Marina. She does not permanently live here and would she she would be within the 20 min walk to school rule. Both cars are an annoyance and their drivers take advantage over other students. Every so often they also pick-nick in one of the cars. They should be disallowed to misuse our parking permit stickers. Their license plates are: 6VYD494 & 6VYD846.

One other issue: we also do not like to be a "student pick-up station" for parents. They sometimes park for 15 to 30 min. prior to school day end, often with engines running! They block drive ways and views endangering our local traffic.

Best  
Edy O. Sennhauser  
642 Riviera Circle