



# City of Seattle

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

## Department of Transportation

Scott Kubly, Director

November 8, 2016

### DECISION REGARDING PROPOSED BALLARD RESTRICTED PARKING ZONE

Dear Ballard Stakeholder:

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) would like to thank everyone who participated in the opportunity for public comment regarding the concept of a Restricted Parking Zone (RPZ) around the Ballard business district. Because a majority of comments to us reflected lack of support for this new zone, SDOT is not continuing the process to create a new RPZ in the Ballard neighborhood.

In July 2014, the Central Ballard Residents Association (CBRA) requested that SDOT study the feasibility of a new RPZ around the Ballard business district. SDOT studied the area in September 2015 and found that the area met the minimum criteria. We presented these results to the CBRA in November 2015.

A new RPZ must not only meet minimum occupancy requirements. It must also be reviewed and generally supported by stakeholders in the area (Seattle Municipal Code 11.16.317b). Based upon data collected, consistency with other zones, and initial input from the CBRA, SDOT developed a plan for an RPZ and sent an initial proposal and online survey to the community in May 2016. Over 500 people took the survey or commented by email or phone.

The feedback we received from the survey and comments did not indicate general support for an RPZ by stakeholders in the area:

- About half of survey respondents wanted no RPZ in the area at all. Most of the those supporting an RPZ based their support on the RPZ being more restrictive than proposed. SDOT works to balance on-street parking demands in the public right-of-way, and a more restrictive RPZ in the area would not provide such balance.
- Over 70% of the nearly 250 written comments that expressed an opinion on the RPZ were explicitly opposed to or had serious concerns about an RPZ in the area.

SDOT is in the midst of an RPZ Policy Review. We are looking at many aspects of the program and focusing mostly on how to manage high residential demand in areas of increasing density. Draft recommendations from this policy review should be available soon. Materials will be available at [http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/rpz\\_policy\\_review.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/rpz_policy_review.htm). In addition, SDOT will continue to monitor parking in the Ballard business district through SDOT's annual study of paid parking areas.

Again, thank you for your participation. You can visit [www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/rpz\\_new.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/rpz_new.htm) for more detailed information. If you have any questions, please contact me at [ruth.harper@seattle.gov](mailto:ruth.harper@seattle.gov) or 206-684-4103.

Best regards,

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