



Memo

Police Department

32

TO: Mayor and Ames City Council
FROM: Charles Cychosz, Chief of Police
DATE: May 8, 2009
SUBJECT: Update on University Impacted Area Parking

At the April 14 City Council meeting you asked that the Staff Report on the University Impacted Area Parking Study (April 25, 2006) be redistributed to you. This report was previously distributed to you, and remains available in the City Clerk's Office for public review. This report was originally presented at the April 25, 2006 City Council meeting. On that date, the Council directed the City Attorney to draft an ordinance:

- 1) Changing to a uniform alternate side parking sign,
- 2) Eliminating the 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. parking prohibition (except in metered areas),
- 3) Abolishing the four- and six-hour parking limitations in the high-density area only of the University Impacted Area.

The City Attorney completed that ordinance revision and circulated it to the Police Department and Traffic Engineer for analysis. After reviewing these potential changes, staff became concerned that there are a number of streets that will have parking regulation changes at zoning boundaries. We fear that the result of this will be even more confusion due to additional variability in signage and regulation on many of these streets. The Traffic Engineer is preparing a map illustrating the resulting variability of regulations that would result from the use of zoning boundaries as the determining factor in parking regulations. This map will be available on Tuesday night.

Should you wish to continue to explore incremental solutions to these parking problems, another alternative would be to examine the acceptability of making the changes on each street. To do so, I'd suggest that we use a process of (a) examining the width and traffic flow on a street, (b) seeking input on making these changes on a given street, and (c) bringing the results of these discussions back to Council for your consideration.

We look forward to answering your questions and receiving further guidance from you Tuesday night.