

**VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE**  
**REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP**  
**APRIL 14, 2009 AGENDA**

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
Parking Deck – Marking of parking spaces including those designated as “Compact Cars Only”	✓ Resolution Ordinance Motion Discussion Only	Naneil Newlon, P.E., Director of Public Works

**SYNOPSIS**

An ordinance has been prepared to amend the Municipal Code to allow for the marking of parking spaces within the Parking Deck, including spaces designated as “Compact Cars Only,” and to require that vehicles park wholly within such markings.

**STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT**

The Five Year Plan and Goals for 2008-2013 identified *Exceptional Municipal Organization*. A supporting objective of this goal is *Top Quality Core Services Responsive to Current and Future Community and Citizen Needs*.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

N/A.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Approval on the April 21, 2009, active agenda

**BACKGROUND**

Since the opening of the Municipal Parking Deck on October 1, 2004, the parking utilization has been slowly increasing. The deck is now generally full of vehicles on a daily basis. Many of those parked vehicles are longer than the standard mid-size length, such as pick-up trucks and other extended cab type vehicles. On each of the five (5) levels, the aisle parking spaces are used by these longer vehicles, with the net result of significantly reducing sight distance for turning vehicles.

To address this issue and prevent vehicular and pedestrian conflicts in the deck, staff is proposing to designate “Compact Cars Only” spaces where larger vehicles create a problem. This would apply to approximately 32 of the total 788 total parking spaces in the Deck. Each compact parking space is proposed to be striped with the maximum vehicle dimensions, which is determined to be 9 feet by 15 feet. To assist in this endeavor, an ordinance has been proposed to allow marking of parking spaces within the Parking Deck, including those designated as “Compact Cars Only”, and to require that vehicles be parked wholly within those markings. Staff will work to effectively communicate this proposed change with appropriate signage and enforcement.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Ordinance

Meeting Minutes – March 11, 2009 TAP Commission

Deck Compact Car Parking

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING PARKING PROVISIONS  
FOR COMPACT CARS IN THE PARKING DECK**

BE IT ORDAINED by the Village Council of the Village of Downers Grove in DuPage County, Illinois, as follows: (Additions are indicated by **shading**/underline; deletions by ~~strikeout~~):

**Section 1. That Section 14.109.1. is hereby added to read as follows:**

**14.109.1. Marking Parking Spaces; Parking Deck.**

Suitable markings approved by the Village Manager shall be painted or placed upon the Parking Deck for the purpose of designating each parking space for the Parking Deck including parking spaces designated as "Compact Cars Only" and the angle at which vehicles shall be parked therein. Each vehicle parked within the Parking Deck shall be parked wholly within such markings including vehicles parked in spaces designated as "Compact Cars Only".

**Section 2.** That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**Section 3.** That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in the manner provided by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Passed:

Published:

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Village Clerk

**Transportation and Parking Commission Meeting  
March 11, 2009**

**File #03-09 Parking Deck - Designation of "Compact Cars Only" Spaces** - Mr. Fera reviewed the various monitoring that took place at the deck since its opening. Over time, he explained that many of the larger vehicles have been parking at the end of the aisle which causes safety concerns for corners and turn areas. Approximately thirty-two (32) spaces are under consideration. Staff is recommending that those end stalls be converted to spaces for small compact cars but also be enforced by the village police. Per Mr. Fera, the signage has already been created. He reviewed how the stalls would exactly be painted to fit a car bumper to bumper. Mr. Saricks commented that the County building in Wheaton had similar stalls in its parking garage. Discussion followed that some form of entrance signage should be put in place to warn motorists. Mr. Fera concurred also stated promotional steps could be taken to communicate same to the community.

A dialog followed on whether there was a flaw in the original design of the parking deck to which staff could not answer but stated, at the time, the parking deck did meet current requirements. Discussion also was raised to have signage for motorists to have their vehicle fit in the box versus compact cars. Wherein Mr. Fera stated the definition would be for a "compact car" and vans would probably be excluded because of their size.

Co-Chairman Gress suggested that if this proposal were to go through, that an initial grace period be given to motorists, wherein Sgt. Sembach mentioned warnings would be issued for the first month. Co-chairman Gress also suggested placing signage on the pay boxes discussing compact cars.

**MR. SARICKS MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION REGARDING THE DISPOSITION OF COMPACT CAR SPACES IN THE DOWNTOWN PARKING DECK.**

**SECONDED BY MR. SCHILLER.**

**AYE: MR. SARICKS, MR. SCHILLER, MR. GRESS, MR. WENDT, MR. STUEBNER,  
MR. CRONIN, MS. VAN ANNE, MR. BARRY.**

**NAY: NONE**

**MOTION CARRIED. VOTE: 8-0**