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Edward D. Reiskin | Director of Transportation

**Date:** February 24, 2012**To:** Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors**From:** Edward D. Reiskin  
Director of Transportation**Subject:** *Request that the Board of Supervisors approve amending Transportation Code, Division I by adding Section 7.2.53 to prohibit parking of vehicles or trailers of specified types or dimensions in designated locations and certain times.*

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) requests that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) amend the San Francisco Transportation Code, Division I by adding Section 7.2.53 to prohibit the on-street parking of any vehicle over 22 feet in length or seven feet in height, or camp trailers, fifth-wheel travel trailers, house cars, trailer coaches, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, or semi-trailers as defined by the California Vehicle Code and Health and Safety Code, between the hours of 12 a.m. and 6 a.m. when SFMTA signs are posted giving notice; and making environmental findings.

### Background

Current law and City policy permits drivers to park large vehicles on-street. While there are parking restrictions for commercial vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of over 10,000 pounds, large vehicles that do not meet these criteria are subject to the same parking restrictions as passenger vehicles. Various locations in the City without parking regulations are being used to store oversized vehicles for significant periods resulting in lack of access to parking by nearby residents and businesses.

### Proposal

The proposed amendment to the Transportation Code would prohibit, on streets with posted signage, between the hours of 12 a.m. and 6 a.m., the parking of:

- Vehicles in excess of 22 feet in length or over seven feet in height, or
- Camp trailers, fifth-wheel travel trailers, house cars, trailer coaches, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, and semi-trailers as defined by the California Vehicle Code and Health and Safety Code

Large vehicle restrictions would be applicable on streets where notification signage is posted. Prior to posting, any signage with these restrictions would be subject to the current legislative and public hearings process.

After the initial sign installation, the SFMTA will carefully monitor the effectiveness of the ordinance on signed streets, the impacts on the surroundings and will recommend possible improvements to the program if required. The SFMTA will develop a second phase of implementation as part of the evaluation. The second implementation phase will address any spillover effects, or any other issues identified. A copy of the complete Draft Policy Document summarizing the program is included with your legislative packet.

## **Alternatives Considered**

The SFMTA considered various options to adopting the proposed legislative modifications, including:

- Issue permits that allow residents and/or visitors to park large vehicles overnight
- Provide public parking lots for large vehicle parking.
- Prohibit parking of large vehicles on all residential streets at all times.
- Citywide prohibition of overnight large vehicle parking.
- Use time limits or meters on unmanaged streets where large vehicles currently park.

These alternatives, however, could be cost prohibitive, add significant administrative burdens to city staff, shift overnight or long-term vehicle parking to neighborhoods outside restricted areas, restrict the vehicle parking rights of residents and/or businesses, or might interfere with parking management goals and/or the City's Transit First Policy.

## **Status**

In order to enable the SFMTA to address parking issues for vehicles that fall outside the current passenger vehicle restrictions, on January 20, 2012, the SFMTA recommended Transportation Code modifications to the SFMTA Board of Director's Policy and Governance Committee. The Committee endorsed the modifications and directed the SFMTA to proceed. The modifications would establish a fine amount for violations at \$65.00 which would be established through a change to Division II of the San Francisco Transportation Code requiring approval by the SFMTA Board of Directors. However, before the SFMTA Board can take action to impose parking fines for these vehicles, the Board of Supervisors must approve the parking prohibitions proposed for Division I of the Transportation Code.

Large vehicle restrictions would be applicable where signs are posted giving notice of the restriction. Any signage with these restrictions would be subject to the current legislative and public hearings process like other on-street parking regulations.

The proposed amendment:

- Enables the SFMTA to discourage habitation in vehicles and overnight or long-term parking in areas in areas with a high demand for parking, including residential areas, and
- Provides the flexibility to address this issue on a street-by-street basis

## **Budget Impact**

The SFMTA anticipates that implementing the proposed modifications will be cost neutral.

## **Recommendations**

The SFMTA requests that the Board of Supervisors amend the San Francisco Transportation Code, Division I by adding Section 7.2.53 to prohibit the on-street parking of any vehicle over 22 feet in length or seven feet in height, or camp trailers, fifth-wheel travel trailers, house cars, trailer coaches, mobile homes, recreational vehicles, or semi-trailers as defined by the California Vehicle Code and Health and Safety Code, between the hours of 12 a.m. and 6 a.m. when SFMTA signs are posted giving notice; and making environmental findings.