



## COUNCIL REFERRAL MEMORANDUM

**To:** Hayward Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Council Members Daniel Goldstein and Julie Roche  
**Subject:** Referral - RV Parking.  
**Date:** 11/14/2023

### **BACKGROUND:**

The City is already developing a Safe Parking staff report to address the need for a safe, free place for individuals and families living in their vehicles as a last resort. This referral will add an element in that report specific to RVs, and propose additional language to the Traffic Code to restrict RV parking on public streets.

State law leaves cities to decide matters of parking on public streets. The City of Hayward Traffic Code<sup>1</sup> that prohibits parking **commercial vehicles** on residential streets (Sec. 6.38) specifically excludes even similar-sized vehicles when used for “recreational housing.” The Code also sets limits on the height, screening from view, and physical orientation of recreational vehicles parked or stored on **private** property (Sec. 6.39) to establish a visual aesthetic. The Traffic Code also limits obstructions to **visibility** at intersections (Sec. 9.01). However, the Traffic Code today has no prohibition limiting RVs parked on public streets within the City.

The Hayward Municipal Code<sup>2</sup> section 4-1.57 defines “nuisance” that meets the authority for abatement as property in “such condition of deterioration or disrepair... materially detrimental to proximal properties” (a), or “so out of harmony or conformity with...adjacent properties... as to cause substantial [harm to] the enjoyment, use or property value of such adjacent properties” (b). Many RVs used as a home of last resort meet these definitions. Section 4-17.20 prohibits camping on public property.

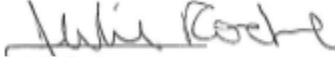
Despite Hayward’s lead in developing housing, the housing shortage is expected to climb, and the demand for RV parking on public streets is expected to grow along with it.<sup>4</sup> To avoid the crises that Fremont<sup>5</sup> and Novato experienced, Hayward should plan now to provide RV Safe Parking and also restrict RV parking on public streets.

### **SUMMARY:**

This referral requests that Council direct staff to:

1. **In conjunction with the Safe Parking staff report already in development**, add RVs.
2. **Identify** places where live-aboard RV parking is currently allowed and the cost to use it, and propose additional locations where it may be permitted.
3. **Identify** costs and potential funding sources.
4. **Propose a Traffic Code change** to restrict RV parking on public streets.
5. **Present** the project proposal to the City Council for adoption on the timeframe already committed, or within 60 days thereafter.

  
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Daniel Goldstein  
Council Member

  
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Julie Roche  
Council Member

**STRATEGIC ROADMAP:**

This referral supports the Strategic Priority to **Preserve, Protect & Produce Housing for All**. Specifically, this referral relates to the following:

- House and support people experiencing homelessness

This referral supports the Strategic Priority to **Enhance Community Safety & Quality of Life**. Specifically, this referral relates to the following:

- Invest in community-based crime response and enforcement models
- Invest in cleanliness and blight reduction

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**REFERENCES:**

1. Hayward Traffic Code  
<https://www.hayward-ca.gov/sites/default/files/documents/TrafficCode031413.pdf>
2. Hayward Municipal Code  
[https://library.municode.com/ca/hayward/codes/municipal\\_code?nodeId=HAYWARD\\_MUNICIPAL\\_CODE\\_CH4PUWEMOCO\\_ART1PUNU\\_WERULIAB](https://library.municode.com/ca/hayward/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=HAYWARD_MUNICIPAL_CODE_CH4PUWEMOCO_ART1PUNU_WERULIAB)

3. Novato RV Encampment

<https://abc7news.com/binford-road-novato-rv-encampment-marin-county-affordable-housing-bay-area/13325756/>

4. Fremont RV Encampment

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/eastbay/article/This-quiet-Bay-Area-suburb-saw-explosive-growth-17333139.php>