

# OCEAN GROVE RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING PROGRAM (RPPP)

PILOT PROPOSAL – (revised 10/20/2022)

## PILOT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

In an effort to address the critical parking issues observed in Ocean Grove, it is proposed that the Neptune Township Committee approve a pilot program for CY 2023 to test Resident Permit Parking in a portion of Ocean Grove. By carefully creating an RPPP area that consists of two zones, this proposed pilot will promote parking opportunities for residents of Ocean Grove and is designed in such a way that its implementation will not result in a “shift” of the parking problem to other areas of the community. The two-zone, RPPP area proposed (*see attached map*) will include:

- **Zone 1 (Year-Round Parking Area):** The area displayed in blue is proposed Zone 1 or the “Year-Round Zone.” Zone 1 consists of the areas Kimley Horn suggested be included in an RPPP (per their undated report provided to the OGCMA). This area is immediately adjacent to Asbury Park’s business district (Cookman Avenue and Lake Avenue) and is therefore negatively impacted by a year-round influx of Asbury Park workers and visitors choosing to park for free in Ocean Grove. The parking permits in Zone 1 will be enforced *year-round and on both sides of the street*.
- **Zone 2 (Seasonal Parking Area):** The area displayed in green is proposed Zone 2 or the “Seasonal Zone.” This area is negatively impacted by the increased seasonal influx of Asbury Park workers and visitors choosing to park for free in Ocean Grove. Areas in Seasonal 2 will only have RPPP parking on one side of the street (the side identified as the “snow removal” side). Moreover, permits in Zone 2 will only be required during the four-month period beginning May 15<sup>th</sup> and ending September 15<sup>th</sup>. Zone 2 was designed to address concerns about “shifting the problem” (moving the existing parking problem from one side of Ocean Grove to a new area).

Each resident living at an address in an area designated as a RPPP Zone will be entitled to two, free permits subject to the conditions and limitations below.

### Resident Eligibility

- All residents with an address located within the RPPP Zones are eligible for 2, free permits.
- Proof of Residency: In order to establish proof of residency, the resident must provide a valid vehicle registration AND:
  - *If a home-owner*: their property tax bill and license.

- *If a tenant in a rental unit:* their Certificate of Occupancy, a copy of their Residential Lease of six months or more and license. Permits issued will be valid through the end date of a lease and can be renewed (at no cost) when a lease is extended.
  - Requiring a valid CO will:
    - Promote enforcement of a landlord’s requirement to obtain a CO for each new tenant, as per Neptune laws.
    - Help to reduce the parking footprint (i.e. number of vehicles) from short- term, rental guests (AirBNB, VRBO, etc).
    - Help to ensure the safety of Ocean Grove, by ensuring compliance with the regular inspections required to obtain a CO.
- Administration: Administration of the pilot program was discussed with key members of the Township Administration (Business Administrator Gina LaPlaca, Chief Financial Officer Michael Bascom, Attorney Gene Anthony, Chief of Police Larry Fisher and Sgt. James MacConchie) during an October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, and this Proposal has been revised to address the necessary adjustments discussed during the meeting. Assuming approval of the pilot program by the Neptune Township Committee, a target implementation date of March 1, 2023 was established.

## Permits

- Limit: Each household (if a multiple-family residence, each separate residential unit is a “household”) will be eligible to receive a maximum of 2 free permits (which can either be small adhesive “passes” that will be displayed on the vehicle’s windshield, or a hang-tag for the vehicle’s rearview mirror). Each permit will display the license plate of the approved vehicle (to ensure there is no “swapping” of permits) as well as a permit expiration date.
- Cost: There shall be no cost to the residents for their permit(s). As shown on the enclosed Analysis of Residential Permit Parking Programs in Municipalities in New Jersey (“Analysis of Local RPPPs”), a majority of municipalities in NJ do not charge residents to participate in an RPPP. (See also, “Enforcement” below.)
- Parking Permits for Fire/Emergency Personnel: Staff/volunteers working at the Eagle Firehouse at 128 Main Avenue should be provided with parking tags.
- Guest Permits: We recommend guest permits not be included in the proposed pilot program. We believe there are adequate spaces for guests to park, whether it be on the alternate side of streets in Zone 2 or in nonzoned areas of Ocean Grove. Any need for guest permits in the future will be evaluated as part of the pilot program.

## Enforcement

- Identification of Illegal Parking by Residents
  - Neptune Municipal code provides that if someone is illegally parked in a spot designated and marked as being set aside for the physically handicapped, then

the “eligible handicapped person may request a law enforcement officer to arrange for the removal and storage of a motor vehicle which is parked unlawfully in a parking space or zone which is restricted for use by a handicapped person.” § 8-8A.5

- Neptune Municipal Code places the responsibility of reporting the unlawful parking on the individual resident. Keeping consistent with the existing law, this proposed Pilot Program also recommends resident-identification of unlawful parking.
  - Resident-identification of unlawful parking is not only consistent with the Neptune Municipal Code, it also allows the Pilot Program’s cost to be only a small percent of the estimate provided by Kimley Horn in its report.

## **Budget**

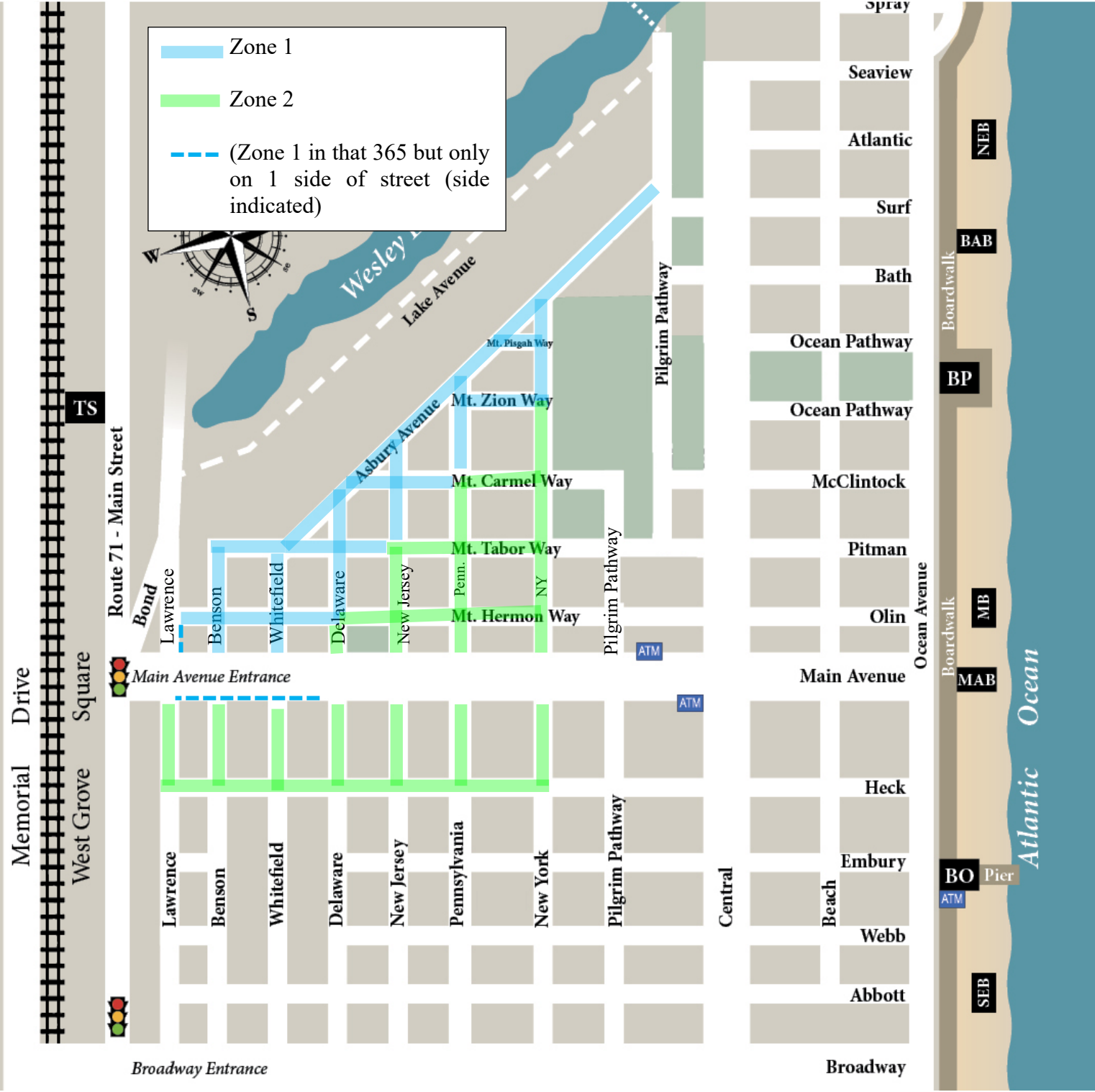
Based on a review of the pilot program, Township CFO Michael Bascom recommends a budget of \$10,000 be adopted for management of the pilot program.

## **Added Recommendations to Improve Parking in Ocean Grove**

While this Proposal only specifically recommends the RPPP Pilot outlined herein, we also support, and would respectfully encourage the Township Committee to support, the following additional steps to further improve parking in Ocean Grove:

- As suggested by the OGCMA, timed parking on Main Avenue for businesses.” It is understood that a new ordinance, limiting parking in Ocean Grove’s Central Business District to three hours is expected to be introduced at the upcoming August 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting or shortly thereafter.
- As previously agreed to by the OGCMA, the Ocean Grove Chamber, the Homeowners Association and the Better Parking Alliance, prohibiting the “saving” of full parking spaces by Vespas/Scooters via the designation of “motorcycle/vespa/scooter only” spaces.
- As suggested by the OGCMA, “enhanced public transit for beach goers” through promotion of the existing discounted New Jersey Transit Beach Package,” which provides riders of NJTransit trains a \$3.50 discount on a daily pass to Ocean Grove beaches. Currently neither the OGCMA’s nor the Ocean Grove Chamber’s website promote this discount program, and it is recommended that marketing of this offer be promoted on their websites (i.e., via creation of individual landing pages on their respective websites).

— Zone 1  
— Zone 2  
- - - (Zone 1 in that 365 but only on 1 side of street (side indicated))



- NEB
- BAB
- BP
- MB
- MAB
- BO
- SEB