



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: January 12, 2016

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Engineering Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Introduction Of Ordinance To Allow Taxicab Loading And Unloading In Green, Yellow, And White Zones

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Chapter 10.48 of the Municipal Code by Amending Sections 10.48.110, Taxicab Stands – Curb Markings, and 10.48.130, Taxicab Parking.

DISCUSSION:

The City's Municipal Code addresses taxicab stands and taxicab parking. Currently, taxicabs are prohibited from picking up or dropping off passengers in any marked green zone (15-minute parking zone), yellow zone (loading zone), white zone (passenger loading zone), or red zone in the City. This prohibition limits the available loading and unloading areas to taxicab stands and regular on-street parking spaces. There are few established taxicab stands in Santa Barbara, and regular on-street parking spaces are typically fully occupied in the downtown area, resulting in limited loading and unloading opportunities for taxicabs.

Staff recommends that Section 10.48.130 of the Municipal Code be amended to allow active loading and unloading of passengers from taxicabs in green, yellow, and white zones while maintaining the prohibition for taxicabs to stop, stand, or park in a red zone. The Public Works Department consulted with the Police Department, who concur with this recommendation.

Section 10.48.110 defines the curb and pavement markings for established taxicab zones. Currently, white curb with blue "taxicabs only" stencils are required, plus a white outline painted on the street. Staff recommends that Section 10.48.110 of the Municipal Code be amended to remove the requirement for a white outline painted on the street.

On December 8, 2015, the Ordinance Committee recommended that Council introduce and subsequently adopt the proposed ordinance amendments.

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APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office