



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MAYOR EMANUEL INTRODUCES A DISABLED RESIDENTIAL PARKING ORDINANCE**

*Program provides parking for people with disabilities and seniors who, due to their limited mobility, need accessible parking in front of their homes.*

Mayor Rahm Emanuel today introduced an ordinance that would amend the disabled residential parking program. The disabled residential parking program directly benefits people with disabilities and seniors who, due to limited mobility, need accessible parking in front of their homes.

“By providing parking spaces in front of the residential homes, the disabled residential parking program can enhance the independence and everyday lives of people with disabilities and seniors,” said Mayor Emanuel. “This move will help us make Chicago one of the most accessible cities in the world.”

“Many homes, given the age and architecture of Chicago, have garages, sidewalks or other paths of travel that cannot accommodate wheelchair-accessible vehicles or someone who uses a mobility device,” said Commissioner Karen Tamley of the Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities (MOPD). “These designated parking spaces provide accessible parking in front of the homes of residents or seniors with disabilities.”

In order to better implement the disabled residential parking program, the proposed ordinance would either clarify or codify various eligibility or procedural provisions of the program.

The program is administered by the Department of Finance and MOPD. The proposed ordinance would:

- Update zoning districts to reflect changes to the current Zoning Code
- Requires that the person driving the placard holder (the applicant) must reside with the applicant and at the residence for which the application is made
- Codifies that the determination of feasibility of the parking space will be based on:
  - A limit of 20 percent of the block for restricted parking spaces
  - Whether alternative accessible off-street parking is available to the applicant



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- Limits the criteria upon which MOPD makes an appeal determination to the accessibility of off-street parking

The proposed ordinance does not change the fact that the final determination of approving or denying residential parking spaces remains with City Council members.

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