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Honorable Board of Public Works
City of West Allis

Re: Parking on the 2100 Block of South 83rd Street

An email was sent to the Common Council from Mr. Artemio Luna at 2125 South 83rd Street on January 2, 2024. Mr. Luna says:

I am here to send a complaint with the absolutely ridiculous rules with parking. I have purchased an overnight parking permit and take the risk of getting a ticket unless i park on a completely different street where my car is out of sight. One side of my street has no parking signs down the whole block it would make sense for anyone to park on the opposite side everytime however that is not the case. If i could park in my driveway i would this would not be an issue for me however i am unable to do so and the least i would expect with an overnight parking permit would be at least to see my own car from within my home. I just hope this is resolved with the common sense it takes to understand this flaw in the system. Not knowing whether or not my car is gonna be there in the morning doesn't sit well with me.

Alderman Stefanski asked the Engineering Department to investigate this. Our investigation yielded a rather complex problem, which is why we want to open up a dialogue with the Board of Public Works.

As you know, the City of West Allis has alternate side parking from 3am-6am. On the 2100 Block of S. 83rd Street, parking is not allowed on the west side of the street. So, residents who park overnight on S. 83rd Street have to move their cars to a different street on the "odd" numbered nights. One "even" numbered nights, they can park on the east side of the street.

The No Parking ordinance has been in place since June 1, 1965 - almost 59 years. The reasons for the "No Parking" signs on the west side of the street are numerous, including:

1. The street is only 27' wide on this block. Most of our streets are 30' wide. If vehicles were to park on both sides of S. 83rd St, I think that we would get complaints about the street being too narrow to drive down with cars on both sides. Garbage trucks, delivery trucks, etc. would find it difficult to drive on. And, car mirrors may be damaged (we get numerous complaints on this).
2. There are a lot of driveways on the west side of S. 83rd Street. Allowing parking would not necessarily give you many spots. People may also park closer than 4' from the driveway opening, which will prompt more calls to the Police and more complaints about parking.
3. It will be more difficult for people to pull out of their driveways if there is parking on both sides of the street, especially people who drive trucks or longer vehicles.

4. If we restricted parking from 8am-9pm, to allow cars to park overnight, we still would have the possibility of vehicles on both sides of the street from 9pm-3am and from 6am-8am, which would cause the problems listed above.

So, in this case, we may upset more people by allowing parking on S. 83rd Street just to please one person. But, this is a discussion that the Board of Public Works needs to have for these cases where parking is not allowed on one side of the street. If only one resident has this complaint, and we have not received complaints about this in the past, I hope we could find a different solution for this resident, since the existing conditions have been in place since 1959. Perhaps this resident could use his driveway instead of the street?

Another alternative to this problem would be to remove the alternate side parking requirement for streets with parking on only one side and allow vehicles to always park on one side of the street. However, DPW would need to be consulted because they perform leaf pickup, street sweeping and snow removal. Could DPW possibly post temporary No Parking signs when they plan to do this work?

If we remove the parking restriction in this case, we may need to do it other places in the City. The Police Department, Fire Department and Department of Public Works should also have input in this matter. This may be an issue the entire Council needs to discuss.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. If you would like to meet about this, we can arrange a meeting with you, Melinda and me. I can be reached by phone or text at **414-587-1699** or email at rhutter@westalliswi.gov.

Thank you,



Robert Hutter
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