

Dan Devine

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Honorable Members of the Common Council:

Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 62.09(8)(c), I am vetoing Ordinance O-2022-0038. As a result of this veto, I am required to file my objections with the clerk.

The resolution admirably aims to simplify the parking regulations during snow emergencies. However, after discussions with Chief Mitchell and City Attorney Decker, I believe this resolution creates unintended situations that fall away from the intent of the new parking regulations.

As written, the new ordinance restricts parking between December 1 and March 31, between 10:00pm and 3:00pm, by limiting parking on the even or odd side of every street in the City of West Allis. Thus, half of the street parking available in the city would be unavailable during the bulk of regular business hours (until 3pm) with or without snow on the ground. This would affect many businesses in the City that rely upon street parking, as well as their customers (especially on certain main thoroughfares where off-street parking may be more limited). I see this as an impediment to access to our business community. For example, an even date on Becher Street means nobody could park in front of the Cheese and Sausage Shoppe until 3:00pm. Additionally, bus stops may create a situation where there is no parking on either side of the street.

While timely snow removal is essential and I support any legislation that focuses on that, I feel the occasional benefit this particular ordinance provides during snow falls is not enough to outweigh the negative impact it will have on our restaurants, doctor offices, shops and essentially any entity that relies on street parking during one-third of the year.

As a result of this veto, this item will be presented to the council at its next meeting. I'd encourage the council to continue looking at this issue and adopt any changes that focus on snow removal without the negative impacts I describe in this veto. Thank you for your consideration.

Dan Devine

Mayor