

**To the Mayor and Members of the City Council****April 13, 2021**

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SUBJECT: STORED VEHICLE ORDINANCE**Purpose and Summary**

The purpose of this Informal Report is to explain the proposed changes in City Code Section 22-159, Storing of Vehicles on Public Street Prohibited. The proposed changes are intended to remove the ambiguity of the current wording and measurably define when a vehicle is considered stored.

The existing language of Section 22-159 deems a vehicle “stored” if it has remained “parked at or nearly at the same location” for a continuous period of time in excess of five days. However, because the language allows for interpretation on the meaning of “nearly at the same location,” enforcement issues often arise when officers are working to identify and cite violators.

To resolve this issue, the proposed amendment would define the vehicle as stored if it is parked continually in the same location for five days without being moved at least one-tenth of a mile.

Conclusion

By removing the language “nearly at the same location” and requiring that the vehicle be moved at least one-tenth of a mile sets forth in concrete and measurable terms what a violation of the ordinance entails and provides objective parameters for enforcement. An action item to amend the current ordinance will be on the April 20th City Council agenda.

If you have any questions please contact Benjamin Sampract, Sr. Assistant City Attorney at 817-392-7617 or Benjamin.Sampract@fortworthtexas.gov or Assistant Chief Joseph Sparrow at 817-392-4231 or Joseph.Sparrow@fortworthtexas.gov.

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