

CITY COUNCIL POLICY No 2026-01

RESIDENT ACCESS PARKING PROGRAM (RAPP) PILOT – 2026

Purpose

Over the last decade, the City has implemented several pilots for Resident Neighborhood Parking Programs to address concerns of reduced parking availability for residents of neighborhoods located near the Downtown Business District.

Neighborhoods in proximity to the Downtown Business District are not metered.

Residents have raised concerns that nonresidents park in their neighborhoods because parking spaces are unmetered, which creates a shortage of parking spaces for residents.

Prior pilots have been unsuccessful because they were difficult to manage and enforce.

A new Resident Access Parking Program (RAPP) Pilot- 2026 (“Program”) has been created to address residents’ concerns and improve the operation and enforcement of the Program.

The goals of Program are to:

- * Increase parking availability for residents by charging nonresidents for parking in designated locations outside the Downtown Business District (“RAPP Zone”);
- * Provide free parking for residents and School, Recreation and Library employees who have registered their vehicle license plates with the City’s Tax or Parking Office;
- * Expand the Downtown Workforce Parking Program to limited areas in the RAPP Zone;
- * Simplify management and enforcement of the Program by using vehicle license plate enforcement; and
- * Provide parking management data from the Program to the Council to help inform future resident parking programs and parking availability in neighborhoods in proximity to the Downtown Business District.

Policy

The Program will provide free parking for residents and School, Recreation and Library employees with vehicle license plates registered through the City's Parking or Tax Office in the RAPP Zone more fully described below. Nonresidents will be charged an hourly parking rate determined by the Fee Schedule Study Committee. The Program also expands the Downtown Resident Workforce Program to Parrott Avenue and the hourly parking rate for Downtown Workers will be determined by the Fee Schedule Study Committee.

RAPP Zone

The RAPP Zone includes the following streets listed below and set forth in the attached map:

- a. Parrott Avenue (roadway only, and the only street in the RAPP Zone to be used by downtown workers registered for the Downtown Workforce Parking Program)
- b. Hanover Street (from Bridge Street to Brewster Street);
- c. Rock Street
- d. Pearl Street
- e. Tanner Street
- f. Tanner Court
- g. Gates Street
- h. Hancock Street
- i. Washington (Court Street to Hancock Street)

Parking Rates in RAPP Zone

Parking Rates for the Program are set by the Fee Schedule Study Committee and hours of enforcement are set forth in Chapter 7, Article I, Section 7.102 (C).

Effective date

The Program is effective July 1, 2026.

Adopted by the Portsmouth City Council on June 8, 2026.


Sally Kellar, City Clerk