

**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH  
LEGAL NOTICE**

**ORDINANCE NO. 4028  
Adopted by the City Council on JULY 7, 2014**

“An Ordinance of the City of Huntington Beach Amending Chapter 10.44 of the Huntington Beach Municipal Code Relating to Parking – Time Limits”

**SYNOPSIS:**

In response to continual complaints from citizens and business owners, the Police Department proposed several changes to Chapter 10.44 of the Huntington Beach Municipal Code (HBMC). These changes were needed to address the inequities of the current ordinance, better align the ordinance with the California Vehicle Code, and more closely match the standards in neighboring cities. Amendments to HBMC Chapter 10.44 will better manage the parking of Oversized, Recreational, and non-motorized vehicles (trailers).

HBMC Chapter 10.44 was last amended on March 21, 2005. As a result of the amendment, the current recreational vehicle and oversized parking restrictions were implemented and the RV permit system was created. However, over the past few years, issues attributed to on-street parking and storage of oversized vehicles and unattached trailers became more pronounced, with the volume of complaints and City responses at an increased level. The purpose of the changes are to address the traffic safety, neighborhood wellness, and public health impacts that larger vehicles and unattached trailers create while being stored on City streets. Staff focused on crafting municipal code updates that apply universally to the residents and visitors of the City, without favoring one type of vehicle, non-motorized or otherwise over another. The intent of the law is to allow RV owners, boat/watercraft owners, and other trailer owners the *temporary* use of streets for the purpose of loading, unloading and general pre-trip and post-trip preparations or other appropriate short term or emergency use. The four hour grace period before enforcement allows for such use.

There are three primary issues associated with oversized vehicles and non-motorized vehicles (unattached trailers) being parked on public streets:

1. Diminished traffic safety – encroachment into the travel way on narrow roads, and obstruction of sight distance approaching intersections, driveways, or curves.
2. Blight and Neighborhood Wellness – the City receives hundreds of complaints per year regarding oversized vehicles and unattached trailers parked and stored on streets in the City. The current ordinance demands excessive staff resources to regulate and enforce and has proven ineffective at meeting the needs of residents. A non-motorized vehicle (trailer) that is not attached to a drawing vehicle is, by definition, being *stored*.
3. Public Health and Safety – storage of oversized vehicles and non-motorized vehicles (unattached trailers) with onboard utilities (such as fuel, water and sewer storage along with electrical components commonly found on toy haulers, boats, utility trailers, motorhomes and travel trailers) on public streets can be problematic. While parked, even short term, these vehicles can pose health and safety hazards such as raw sewage or fuel leaking from tanks, extension cords and water hoses creating trip hazards when draped across sidewalks and electrical hazards and noise generated from various types of accessory motors, pumps, battery chargers, and other various facilities.

Specific HBMC changes include:

1. Amend section 10.44.060 Oversized Vehicle Parking Regulations;
  - To include all streets in the city
  - Allow a four (4) hour grace period before enforcement
  - To include any motor vehicle over 84 inches wide
  - To clean up other language for clarity and consistency.
2. Amend section 10.44.065 Exceptions;
  - To allow *all* Oversized Vehicles, as defined in 10.44.060 (A), to get a permit.
  - To prohibit all types of unattached trailers from being stored on *any* street.

- To reduce the number of consecutive days allowed for a single permit to comply with the California Vehicle Code and HBMC, which prohibits parking over 72 hours.
  - To limit the 45 day exception for oversized motor vehicles parked while used in performing services or repairs on residential property to 90 days maximum.
  - To reword the emergency and mechanical breakdown exception to be consistent with other areas in the HBMC.
  - Prohibit overnight parking of recreational vehicles and over-sized vehicles in a commercial or industrial district (10.44.065 (G)).
  - To clean up other language for clarity and consistency.
3. Delete section 10.44.080 Overnight Parking of Recreational Vehicle in Commercial or industrial District.
- This section will no longer be needed with the addition of 10.44.065 (G) which prohibits overnight parking of recreational vehicles and over-sized vehicles in a commercial or industrial district.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach at a regular meeting held July 7, 2014 by the following roll call vote:

**AYES:** Katapodis, Hardy, Shaw, Boardman, Sullivan, Carchio

**NOES:** Harper

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**THE FULL TEXT OF THE ORDINANCE IS AVAILABLE IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE.**

**This ordinance is effective 30 days after adoption.**

**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH  
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HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92648  
714-536-5227  
JOAN L. FLYNN, CITY CLERK**