



CITY OF NOVI CITY COUNCIL AUGUST 11, 2025

SUBJECT: Approval of the **FIRST READING** of Amendment to the City of Novi Code of Ordinances, Section 33-501, relating to parking on narrow streets.

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: City Manager

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- The Ordinance Review Committee (ORC) is recommending that the City Council discuss an ordinance amendment relating to ensuring free and unobstructed passage between parked vehicles, on all City streets but with particular attention to narrow streets.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The ORC has been studying the issue of parking challenges on narrow streets, following concerns voiced by residents. The Committee has looked in particular at the existing section of the Code relating to "Parking in a Manner that Obstructs Traffic, Section 33-501, which right now simply states that a person "shall not park any vehicle on a street in a manner that leaves an insufficient width of the roadway available for free movement of a vehicular traffic." The proposed ordinance expands that language to provide that:

- Less than 10 feet in width shall in all cases be considered a restriction on the free movement of vehicular traffic.
- On streets that have less than 24 feet in pavement width, where vehicles parked across from each other on opposite sides of the street will potentially obstruct traffic, or will leave less than 10 feet between vehicles, a person shall, to the extent it is safe and available for use (e.g., flat surface or improved with gravel or stone or similar treatment) use the shoulder of the roadway within the public right-of-way, or a portion of it, to ensure a sufficient width for free movement.

- If parked on the opposite side of the street across from a driveway entrance, the vehicle shall be parked as far off the pavement as possible and safe, in order to allow unobstructed egress from the driveway.
- The City Engineer is authorized to post signage reflecting the requirements of this Section where he or she determines it appropriate to do so.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approval of Ordinance No. 25- _____, to amend the City of Novi Code of Ordinances, Chapter 33, "Traffic and Motor Vehicles", Article II, "Uniform Traffic Code," Division 2, "Additional Regulations," Subdivision 5, "Stopping, Standing, Parking," Section 33-501, "Parking in a Manner that Obstructs Traffic; Violation as Civil Infraction," in order to add standards relating to parking on narrow streets. **FIRST READING**

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
CITY OF NOVI

ORDINANCE NO. 25-_____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF NOVI CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 33, "TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES", ARTICLE II, "UNIFORM TRAFFIC CODE," DIVISION 2, "ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS," SUBDIVISION 5, "STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING," SECTION 33-501, "PARKING IN A MANNER THAT OBSTRUCTS TRAFFIC; VIOLATION AS CIVIL INFRACTION," IN ORDER TO ADD STANDARDS RELATING TO PARKING ON NARROW STREETS AND IN SPECIAL PLACES.

THE CITY OF NOVI ORDAINS:

PART I. That Chapter 33, "Traffic and Motor Vehicles," Article II, "Uniform Traffic Code," Division 2, "Additional Regulations," Subdivision 5, "Stopping, Standing, Parking," Section 33-501, "Parking in a manner that obstructs traffic; violation as civil infraction," is hereby added to read as follows in its entirety:

SUBDIVISION 5. STOPPING, STANDING, PARKING

Sec. 33-501. Parking in a manner that obstructs traffic; violation as civil infraction.

- (a) A person shall not park any vehicle on a street in a manner that leaves an insufficient width of the roadway available for free movement of a vehicular traffic, including for garbage trucks, snowplows, and police, fire, and emergency vehicles. Less than 10 feet in width shall in all cases be considered a restriction on the free movement of vehicular traffic. On streets that have less than 24 feet in pavement width, where vehicles parked across from each other on opposite sides of the street will potentially obstruct traffic, or will leave less than 10 feet between vehicles, a person shall, to the extent it is safe and available for use (e.g., flat surface or improved with gravel or stone or similar treatment) use the shoulder of the roadway within the public right-of-way, or a portion of it, to ensure a sufficient width for free movement. If parked on the opposite side of the street across from a driveway entrance, the vehicle shall be parked as far off the pavement as possible and safe, in order to allow unobstructed egress from the driveway. The City Engineer is authorized to post signage reflecting the requirements of this Section where they determine it appropriate to do so.
- (b) A person who violates this section is responsible for a civil infraction and/or impoundment.

PART II.

Severability. Should any section, subdivision, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance be declared by the courts to be invalid, the validity of the Ordinance as a whole, or in part, shall not be affected other than the part invalidated.

PART III.

Savings Clause. The amendment of the Novi Code of Ordinances set forth in this Ordinance does not affect or impair any act done, offense committed, or right accruing, accrued, or acquired or liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment, pending or incurred prior to the amendment of the Novi Code of Ordinances set forth in this Ordinance.

PART IV.

Repealer. All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

PART V.

Effective Date. The provisions of this Ordinance are ordered to take effect following publication in the manner prescribed by the Charter of the City of Novi.

PART VI.

Adoption. This ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Novi City Council in a meeting thereof duly held and called on the ____ day of _____, 2025, in order to be given publication in the manner prescribed by the Charter of the City of Novi.

Justin Fischer, Mayor

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

Certificate of Adoption

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the ordinance adopted at the regular meeting of the Novi City Council held on the ____ day of _____, 2025.

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF OAKLAND
CITY OF NOVI

ORDINANCE NO. 25-_____

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Justin Fischer, Mayor

Cortney Hanson, City Clerk

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Cortney Hanson, City Clerk