


CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCETemp. PPD No. 137
CD 10

DATE: September 2, 2008

TO: The Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall
Attention: Honorable Wendy Greuel, Chair, Transportation CommitteeFROM:  Rita L. Robinson, General Manager
Department of Transportation**SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY PREFERENTIAL PARKING
DISTRICT NO. 137 FOR PICFAIR VILLAGE SOUTH OF PICO
BOULEVARD****RECOMMENDATIONS** for Council action:

1. FIND that the establishment of Temporary Preferential Parking District No. 137, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code (L.A.M.C.) Section 80.58.d, is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under the General Exemption (Article II, Section 1 of the 2002 Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines).
2. FIND that an adverse parking impact affecting fewer than six blocks exists, from which the residents deserve immediate relief, in the Picfair Village neighborhood, south of Pico Boulevard, in Council District 10.
3. ADOPT the accompanying RESOLUTION establishing Temporary Preferential Parking District No. 137 pursuant to Section 80.58.d of the L.A.M.C. Temporary Preferential Parking District No. 137 will include the residential portions of the following street segments:
 - a. Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
 - b. Sierra Bonita Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
 - c. Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
 - d. Ellsmere Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
 - e. Stanley Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
4. AUTHORIZE the following parking restriction for use in all of Temporary Preferential Parking District No. 153:

"1 HOUR PARKING, 8 AM to 6 PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY; NO PARKING
ALL OTHER TIMES; DISTRICT NO. 137 PERMITS EXEMPT"

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5. INSTRUCT the DOT to initiate the necessary procedures for the preparation and sale of parking permits to residents within Temporary Preferential Parking District No. 137 as specified in Section 80.58 of the L.A.M.C.
6. DIRECT the DOT to post the authorized parking restriction signs on the residential portions of Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street and Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, except for areas where parking is currently prohibited at all times in the interest of traffic flow or safety, or where parking meters with time limit parking restrictions are already in use, upon Council action establishing the District.
7. DIRECT the DOT to post the authorized parking restriction signs on the residential portions of Sierra Bonita Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, Ellsmere Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, and Stanley Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, except for areas where parking is currently prohibited at all times in the interest of traffic flow or safety, or where parking meters with time limit parking are in operation, upon receipt and verification of petitions requesting the installation of the approved parking restrictions on any of these street segments and containing signatures of residents representing at least 67 percent of the dwelling units on that street segment, upon Council action establishing the District.
8. DIRECT the DOT to prepare a Notice of Exemption reflecting Council's action under Recommendation No. 1 above and file such notice with the City and County Clerks within five working days of the City Council's action.

DISCUSSION:

On March 12, 2007, the Department of Transportation (DOT) received a written request for permit parking from the Picfair Village Community Association, for the 1400 and 1500 blocks of Curson Avenue, as well as for nearby blocks of Ellsmere Avenue, Sierra Bonita Avenue, and on Saturn Street. On July 18, 2007, DOT staff conducted an informal meeting with representatives of the neighborhood and staff from Council District 10. When no viable alternatives could be identified to address the neighborhood's parking problem, a standard preferential parking district was discussed as an option and petitions were distributed. Subsequently, valid petitions requesting "No Parking; Except 1 Hour Parking, 8 AM to 6 PM, Monday to Friday, Vehicles with District No. 137 Permits Exempted" were submitted to the DOT from the following street segments:

- Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Curson Avenue between Saturn Street and Pickford Street
- Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Curson Avenue between Pickford Street and Airdrome Avenue
- Carmona Avenue between Pickford Street and Venice Boulevard
- Carmona Avenue between Saturn Street and Pickford Street

Denial of Request for a Standard PPD

On Wednesday, April 2, 2008, a parking study of the proposed district was conducted between 9 AM and 2 PM for 11 blocks, with just one block (Carmona Avenue between Saturn Street and Pico Boulevard) passing the City Council's "Preferential Parking District Parking Study" criteria of at least 75 percent of the parking spaces occupied, and at least 25 percent of the vehicles in the occupied parking spaces belonging to non-residents. The results of the parking study indicated that there was not a significant shortage of parking in the neighborhood, and that the requested "No Parking; Except 1 Hour Parking, 8 AM to 6 PM, Monday to Friday, Vehicles with District No. 137 Permits Exempted" preferential parking restriction could not be justified. On July 15, 2008, DOT sent a letter to Valerie Woodson, of the Picfair Village Community Association, informing her that the request for a PPD had been denied based on the failure to pass the parking study.

Request for a Temporary PPD

On July 21, 2008, DOT received a written request from Councilmember Herb Wesson, 10th Council District (see attached letter), requesting the establishment of a Temporary PPD for the Picfair Village Neighborhood, south of Pico Boulevard, on Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, Sierra Bonita Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, Ellsmere Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, and Stanley Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, and requesting that this District be posted with a "No Parking; except 1 Hour Parking, 8 AM to 6 PM, Monday to Friday; District No. 137 Permits Exempt" preferential parking restriction, except for segments of these blocks where parking meters with time limit parking restrictions were currently in effect. In his letter, Councilmember Wesson indicated that this proposal was essential to provide the residents of this block with parking relief from the non-resident vehicles associated with the nearby businesses on Pico Boulevard, who have taken away much of the parking for the residents, blocked driveways, and have caused complaints about noise, littering, and interference with trash pick-up. After ruling out the option of regular time limit parking on these residential streets, the Councilmember concluded that a Temporary PPD was the best available parking solution.

Background:

The Picfair Village neighborhood, south of Pico Boulevard, is developed with multi-family residential units (see attached map). The residents of this neighborhood have begun to notice an increase in the number of vehicles parking in their neighborhood, and they have begun to experience difficulties finding parking spaces close to their homes. This is adversely impacting the quality of life for the residents on Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, Sierra Bonita Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, Ellsmere Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, and Stanley Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, and they are seeking immediate relief from this parking problem.

Councilmember Wesson, Council District 10, and his staff have consulted with DOT regarding the parking problem on the affected blocks and have concluded that preferential parking is the best possible solution to increase the residents' chances of finding on-street parking close to where they live. In the judgment of Councilmember Wesson, the residents of these blocks deserve some immediate relief from their present parking problems until a permanent solution can be found; therefore, he has requested the creation of Temporary PPD No. 137.

The City Council has the authority, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.58.d, to establish Temporary PPDs by resolution "to provide relief for residents who suffer an excessive parking impact ... as the result of any conditions which impact fewer than six blocks and which, in the judgment of the Council member of the District and after consultation with the Parking Administrator, deserve immediate relief until a permanent solution can be found". Temporary PPDs are limited in duration to a maximum of 12 months from the date of approval of the resolution. Temporary districts may be renewed on an annual basis by resolution until either a permanent solution is found or the problem ceases to exist.

The proposed Temporary PPD would restrict parking in a five-block area for 12 months. Because of its limited size and duration, DOT has concluded that the proposed Temporary PPD will not significantly impact the environment. Therefore, establishment of the district falls within the exemption of Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines and of Article II, Section 1 of the City's 2002 CEQA Guidelines; which provide, "These Guidelines apply generally to discretionary actions by City agencies which may have a significant effect on the environment. However, where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not covered by CEQA and these Guidelines do not apply."

Once Temporary PPD No. 137 is established by Council, the residents of any of the five blocks within the district will be eligible to have the authorized parking restriction posted on their street segment, upon receipt and verification by DOT, of DOT-approved petitions requesting the installation of the authorized parking restriction, signed by residents representing at least 67 percent of the dwelling units on that street segment. Valid petitions have already been received from the residents of Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, and from Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Revenue from the sale of permits will cover the additional cost of implementing, administering, and enforcing Temporary PPD No. 137. Furthermore, the City may gain additional General Fund revenue from the issuance of parking citations to violators of the District's parking restrictions.

COORDINATION

Councilmember Wesson, Council District 10, and his staff have consulted with DOT regarding the parking problem in the Picfair Village neighborhood, south of Pico Boulevard, and they have concluded that preferential parking is the best possible solution to address the residents' parking concerns at this time. In his letter submitted to DOT, Councilmember Wesson indicates that the residents of these blocks deserve some immediate relief from their present parking problems until a permanent solution can be found; therefore, he has requested the creation of Temporary PPD No.137.

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Attachments

RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT NO. 137 FOR THE PICFAIR VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD SOUTH OF PICO BOULEVARD AND SETTING THE BOUNDARIES THEREOF AND THE APPLICABLE PARKING RESTRICTIONS.

WHEREAS, the establishment of Preferential Parking Districts (PPDs) is a very effective tool in restricting excessive numbers of nonresident vehicles from parking in residential neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Picfair Village are bearing the intrusion of non-resident vehicles from customers and employees of nearby businesses on Pico Boulevard; which is adversely impacting the residents' ability to access their property or find parking in front of their own homes, and has resulted in excessive noise, blocked driveways, interference with trash pick-up and littering, from which the residents are seeking relief; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation (DOT) has received a written request from Councilmember Herb Wesson, asking DOT to prepare the necessary documents to establish a Temporary PPD for the following five blocks within the Picfair Village neighborhood south of Pico Boulevard, with a "No Parking; except 1 Hour Parking, 8 AM to 6 PM, Monday to Friday; District No. 137 Permits Exempt" preferential parking restriction:

- Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Sierra Bonita Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Ellsmere Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Stanley Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street

WHEREAS, DOT has received valid petitions from the residents of Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, and from Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street, requesting the posting of a "NO PARKING; EXCEPT 1 HOUR PARKING, 8 AM TO 6 PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY; DISTRICT NO. 137 PERMITS EXEMPT" parking restriction for their street segment; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles City Council, by Ordinance No. 152,722, effective September 2, 1979, as revised by Ordinance No. 157,425, effective March 18, 1983, and amended again by Ordinance No. 161,414, effective July 26, 1986, and Ordinance No. 171,029, effective June 1, 1996, provided for the establishment of PPDs by Resolution of the Council in each case, under Section 80.58 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council, pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 80.58.d, hereby establishes Temporary PPD No.137 consisting of the residential portions of the following street segments:

- Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Sierra Bonita Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Ellsmere Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Stanley Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon approval of Temporary PPD No. 137 through the adoption of this Resolution, that the following preferential parking restriction be authorized for use on the residential portions of street segments anywhere within the district, except where stopping or parking are otherwise prohibited due to safety reasons or inadequate roadway width:

"1 HOUR PARKING, 8 AM TO 6 PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY; NO PARKING ALL OTHER TIMES; DISTRICT NO. 137 PERMITS EXEMPT"

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon Council adoption of Temporary PPD No. 137 that the DOT be directed to post the authorized parking restriction signs on the residential portions of the following street segments within Temporary PPD No. 137 that have already submitted valid petitions to DOT requesting these restrictions; except where parking or stopping are otherwise prohibited, or where parking meters with time limit parking restrictions are already in operation:

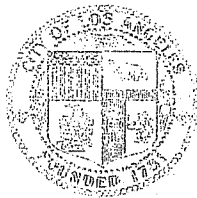
- Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the DOT be directed to post the authorized parking restriction signs on the residential portions of any of the street segments within Temporary PPD No. 137, upon receipt and verification of signatures from residents of any of those street segments requesting the installation of the approved parking restriction for their street segment, and representing at least 67 percent of the dwelling units on the street segment, except where parking or stopping are otherwise prohibited, or where parking meters with time limit parking restrictions are already in operation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that DOT be directed to take the appropriate steps to prepare, issue and require payments for permits from the residents of Temporary PPD No.137 in accordance with Section 80.58 of the L.A.M.C. and the "Rules and Procedures for Preferential Parking Districts" adopted by the City Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the authority for this District shall have a maximum duration of 12 months from the date of approval of this Resolution. The

District may be renewed on an annual basis by Resolution until either a permanent solution is found for the parking problem at this location or the problem ceases to exist.



July 21, 2008

HERB J. WESSON, JR.
COUNCILMEMBER, 10TH DISTRICT

Ms. Rita L. Robinson
General Manager
City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation
100 S. Main Street, 10th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Robinson:

**RE: REQUEST FOR TEMPORARY PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT FOR
PICFAIR VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD (#137)**

The 10th District Council Office has been working with the residents of the Picfair Village Neighborhood southwest of the intersection of Pico Boulevard and Hauser Boulevard to address their issues related to a lack of on-street parking due to non-resident vehicles associated with the nearby businesses on Pico Boulevard. In addition to the parking impact in the neighborhood due to the lack of customer and employee parking for the businesses on Pico Boulevard, problems of excessive noise, blocked driveways, littering, and interference with trash pick-up have also been reported.

After comparing the advantages and disadvantages of time-limit parking for all drivers, to those of a preferential parking district where the residents can be exempt from similar restrictions by purchasing and displaying permits, it seems that a Temporary Preferential Parking District is the better short- term solution available at this time. The Temporary Preferential Parking District would allow the Department of Transportation (DOT) to offer an immediate solution focused on a five-block area; but would still allow time limit parking for customers of the business on weekdays, when the demand for parking in the neighborhood is less, since many residents are away at work or school.

I am requesting that a Temporary Preferential Parking District be established for 12 months, for both sides of the following blocks to try to address these problems:

- Carmona Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Sierra Bonita Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Curson Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Elsmere Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street
- Stanley Avenue between Pico Boulevard and Saturn Street

I also support the posting of a "No Parking; except 1 Hour Parking, 8 AM to 6 PM; Monday to

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Friday; District No. 137 Permits Exempt" parking restriction for the both sides of any of the blocks with residential frontage, within this district. The residents of several of these blocks have already submitted petitions in favor of this parking restriction on their block, and indicating that they are willing to purchase permits. I understand that this restriction will not be posted on any block within the district, until the residents of that block have submitted a valid requisite petition in accordance with Section 80.58 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code. I also request that the parking meter operation be maintained for locations in this district where parking meters are currently in operation, and that the hours of operation on these meters be set to favor the parking needs of the businesses along Pico Boulevard, as determined by DOT.

I request that DOT proceed with the process to establish this Temporary Preferential Parking District for 12 months. If you have any questions, please contact Liz Carlin, of my staff at (323) 733-8233.

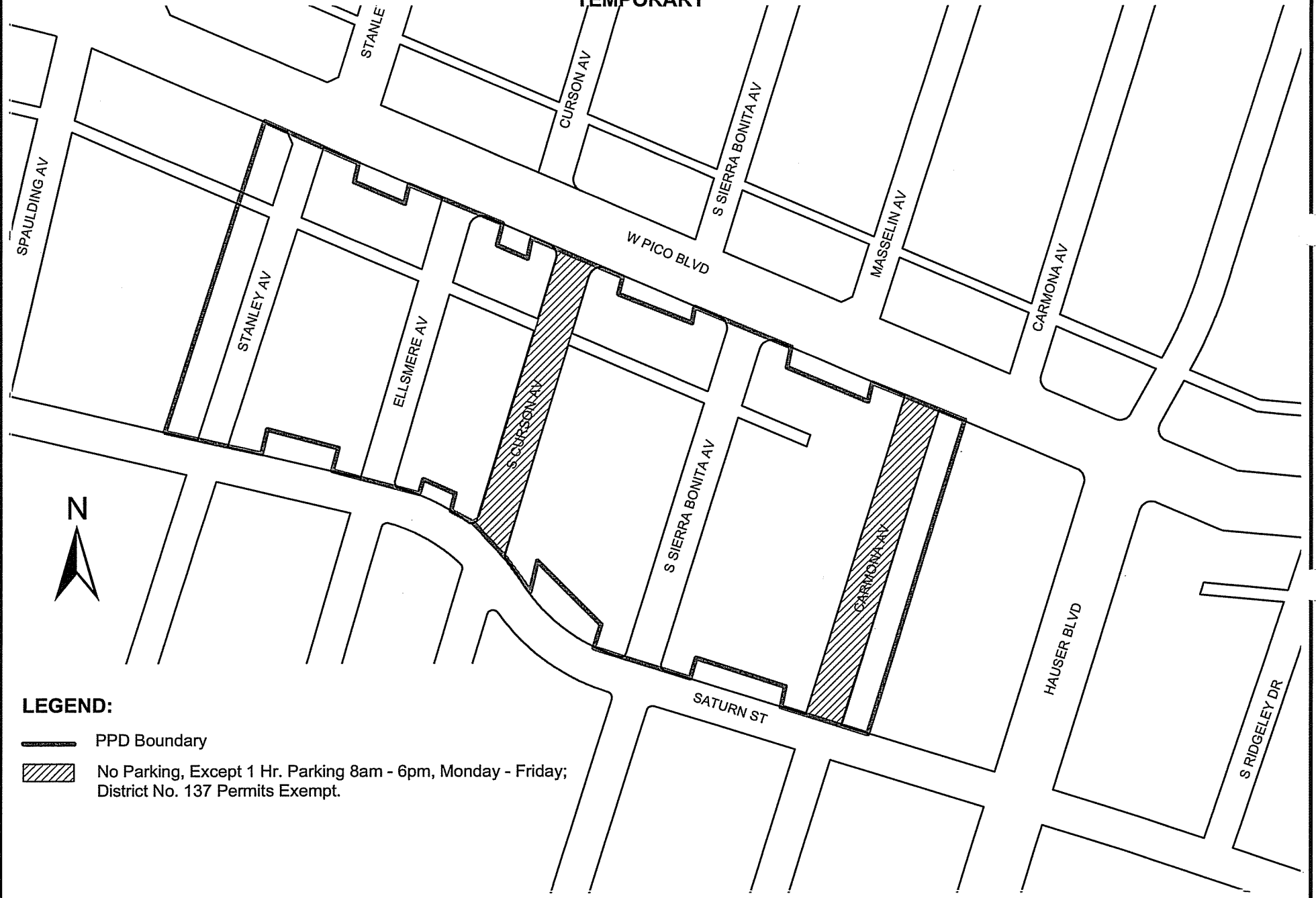
Sincerely,





HERB WESSON, JR.
Councilmember, 10th District

c: Brian Gallagher, LADOT East Valley Operations, Stop 728

PREFERENTIAL PARKING DISTRICT NO. 137
COUNCIL DISTRICT 10
WESTERN ENFORCEMENT
TEMPORARY



LEGEND:

-  PPD Boundary
-  No Parking, Except 1 Hr. Parking 8am - 6pm, Monday - Friday;
District No. 137 Permits Exempt.