



# Public Works

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## BOULDER COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT ON-ROAD PARKING ZONE GUIDELINES

**Purpose:** NO PARKING Zones will be implemented only when parking on the road is otherwise unsafe to the traveling public, including pedestrians, bicycles and motor vehicles, and where these requirements cannot be met. Parking restrictions will not be employed as a primary method to reduce, minimize, or otherwise control usage of a specific site, event, location or property. Additional parking needed for the site or event should be made available on the site as much as practicable.

**Authority:** In accordance with Boulder County Ordinance 2017-1, the Boulder County Model Traffic Code, the County Engineer has the broad discretion and authority to apply these guidelines as appropriate based on individual road and site conditions. All parking laws and restrictions, if more restrictive, supersede the requirements set forth in these guidelines.

**Standard:** All parking must allow for uninhibited emergency vehicle movement. This shall be met by adhering to the below clearance standards by classification

Clearance by Classification	
<i>Classification</i>	<i>Clearance Standard</i>
Local/Local Secondary – subdivision roads, minor rural roads that serve local properties or destinations	Parking allowed if at least one direction of traffic (>12 feet) is clear at all times when traffic parks on one or both sides of road. Distance between two-lane sections cannot exceed 400 feet
Collector/Residential Collector – roads that serve local neighborhoods and properties, collecting traffic to access arterial roads	Two directions of travel must always be open (> 20 feet)
Minor/Principal Arterial – major routes that serve inter-city travel, heavier traffic, transit routes, includes multi-lane highways	Two directions of travel must always be open (>24 feet). Traffic cannot park closer than 5 feet outside of travel lane or edge of asphalt, whichever is greater

Tires on roadway side of car must be outside of white line/edge of asphalt, or outside of recognizable edge of travel lane on gravel. If standards cannot be adhered to in each category, NO PARKING Zones will be implemented in order to achieve the standard.

Except in emergency situations, bikeable shoulders should always be free of parked vehicles. Vehicles must be able to safely park outside of asphalt edge and not hinder the flow of bicycles using the bikeable shoulder.

Parking cannot impede any drainage.

Intersecting driveways, roads, or streets must have adequate sight distance available for approaching vehicles and bicycles using either facility, per existing state statute and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) guidelines.

**Implementation:** Signing or other restrictions must be installed and maintained to provide adherence to these guidelines when not otherwise attainable. Signs will be posted where appropriate to clearly inform users where automobiles or other vehicular appurtenances (trailers, equipment, etc.) cannot be parked in order to permit free flow of traffic and other modes of travel per the classification clearance standards set forth above. Standard signs will be employed as prescribed in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD, latest edition), with supplemental signing as necessary to identify a specific situation and need.

Temporary NO PARKING signage may be employed due to temporary situations and activities that would not otherwise require parking restrictions. Such situations may include, without limitation, emergencies, disasters, permitted activities with large attendance, etc.

**Exemptions and Variances:** Some public properties may require additional PARKING restrictions on adjacent roads in order to maintain a higher level of emergency access and user safety due to the public nature of the use. Exemptions or variances from these guidelines may be granted in order to best facilitate safe access of specific sites and roadways. These exemptions or variances will be reviewed and approved by the County Engineer on a case-by-case basis. The Public Works Director may impose additional requirements or modifications to these guidelines as necessary.