



MUNICIPALITY OF PRINCETON

Department of Infrastructure
& Operations

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MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and Council
From: James J. Purcell, P.E., *Assistant Municipal Engineer*
Subject: Restricted Parking Spaces Ordinance
Date: March 6, 2026

Attached for introduction by Council at the March 9, 2026 Council meeting is a proposed amendment to the ordinances regarding restricted parking spaces, formerly known as handicapped spaces.

Requests were received from residents with disabilities who live on Clay Street and Leigh Avenue for parking spaces for use by people with disabilities. These requests were reviewed by staff and the Traffic Safety Committee and determined to be necessary and feasible. The restricted spaces will not be for the exclusive use of the residents who requested them – they are accessible to anyone with a duly-issued disability placard from NJMVC. The residents are aware of this non-exclusivity.

In reviewing the ordinance related to restricted parking for the persons with disabilities, several other changes were determined to be necessary:

1. Revising the ordinance section title from “Handicapped Parking” to “Restricted Parking.” The term “handicapped” is outdated and obsolete, does not occur in the Americans with Disabilities Act standards, and is not term used in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for signage. State law refers to these types of parking spaces as “Restricted,” therefore the title of the section is being revised to conform to state law and the other appropriate guidance.
2. Revising the number of restricted parking spaces in various locations. Over time, changes in the number of restricted parking spaces have occurred that have not been codified. This amendment will remedy this oversight by revising the number of spaces at the following locations:
 - a. Monument Hall Parking Lot – the restricted spaces at Monument Hall were not included in the ordinance and the amendment will now codify the four spaces in the main parking lot and the single space along the driveway (Monument Drive) near the front walkway.
 - b. Spring Street Municipal Garage. During the recent rehabilitation project, additional restricted spaces were designated on each level of the garage closest to the elevators – there are now twenty-one spaces in place of the nine in the code.
 - c. Princeton Municipal Complex Parking Lots. There are now four restricted parking spaces in the main lot off Witherspoon Street instead of two. The Community Park Pool parking lot was listed separately and has now been included as part of the Municipal Complex Parking Lots, with three restricted spaces instead of six.
3. Revising the numbers from numerals to text for consistency.
4. Deleting a redundant and unnecessary section 11.11.1(b) regarding parking in restricted spaces – this section is repetitive regarding public spaces and state law allows the enforcement action cited for private spaces.
5. Replacing “Witherspoon Alley” with “Tulane Yard.” Witherspoon Alley is an obsolete term no longer in use and not obvious to the general public.
6. Other revisions deemed obsolete or for consistency.

Please let me know if you have any questions.