



CITY OF HARKER HEIGHTS, TEXAS

Parking and Heavy Vehicle Ordinances Update



Vehicle parked on lawn

Parking Regulations: What's Changed

Why did the City adopt an Ordinance to prohibit parking on landscaping?

The City frequently receives complaints from residents about vehicles being parked on lawns. In response to these concerns, the City Council adopted an Ordinance to prevent the parking of vehicles and trailers on unimproved surfaces in residential areas.

How much of my property can I improve for parking?

A maximum of 50% of the required front and side yard may be improved to allow parking of vehicles, boats, recreational vehicles, campers, and trailers. Additionally, 25% of the rear yard may be improved for parking. You may call the City's Planning Department at (254) 953-5647 to find out more information about your specific property and contact the Bell County Health Department at 254-778-7557 for approval if you have a septic system on your property.



Permittable parking improvement limits

What if my existing driveway or parking area does not comply with the Ordinance?

Gravel parking areas that were installed prior to October 1, 2021, may not be subject to the new restrictions. If the City is able to verify that your parking areas or driveway were installed prior the Ordinance taking effect, it will be considered legal non-conforming or "Grandfathered" by our Zoning Code.



RV and trailers parked on lawn

What are the other significant changes?

Heavy vehicles, redefined as vehicles which **exceed 20 feet in length, 8 feet in width, 10 feet in height, or are over 10,000 lbs.**, are prohibited from parking on residential property. Currently, these types of vehicles are prohibited from parking on public streets. This provision is in response to resident complaints regarding the loading of equipment into commercial vehicles, the size of these vehicles, noise, safety, and the visual impact on the neighborhood. **3/4 ton and 1 ton pickup trucks are not considered heavy vehicles and are exempt from the Heavy Vehicle Ordinance.**

When does the Ordinance go into effect?

The Ordinance 2020-44 went into effect on **October 1, 2021**. The Ordinance was adopted under Sections 72 & 155.069 of the City of Harker Heights Code of Ordinances.

Please visit www.harkerheights.gov for more information.

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Heavy vehicle parked at residence