

13
3-14-15

Jackie Henderson

From: Craig Fifer
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:24 PM
To: City Council
Cc: City Council Aides; City Manager Senior Staff; Yon Lambert; Kathleen Leonard; Bob Garbacz; Christopher Spera; Earl Cook; Shirl Mammarella; Jackie Henderson
Subject: Community Input on Vehicles For Sale Ordinance
Attachments: VehiclesForSaleSurvey-031315.pdf

Importance: High

Mayor Euille and Members of Council:

Tomorrow, Council will consider changes to City Code Section 10-4-13(a). As indicated in the docket memo, we solicited community input for Council's benefit. Over the last week, 67 respondents participated in an online survey, which we promoted through the City's website and social media. Of these respondents, 76% believe the Code section should not be retained. Many of the respondents provided additional comments, which are in the attached report.

Please note that this was not an intensive engagement effort, and was somewhat of an experiment to see whether this type of outreach would be a useful way to gain additional input about an ordinance change. The results of this type of survey are not a statistically valid representation of the community at large, but they give some read on community concerns.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

-Craig

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Community Input on Section 10-4-13(a)

1. Have you ever been inconvenienced by a vehicle parked on a public street in the City of Alexandria with a "For Sale" sign displayed?

Yes	11.9%		8
No	88.1%		59
Total			67

Comments

Count Response

- | Count | Response |
|-------|--|
| 1 | I have been inconvenienced by commuter parking. |
| 1 | no but the law says can not be parked more than 72 hrs in one spot. |
| 1 | I do not feel a person posting a for sale sign is disturbing. How is this different from the numerous campaign signs we see during election time? I have heard of people getting ticketing due to this and feel that this is very unfair. |
| 1 | Ever since the city has stopped enforcing 10-4-13 - there is a person who fixes up cars in the fox chase area who is leaving 10 or more cars in the area with for sale signs on them with the same phone # - also I have a sister who lives on s Reynolds street who has seen the same thing and the phone # comes back to a car dealer in Arlington county - so the city needs to start enforcing the law again |

2. Have you ever contacted City staff regarding such a vehicle?

Yes	25.0%		2
No	75.0%		6
Total			8

Comments

Count Response

- | Count | Response |
|-------|---|
| 1 | when I tell parking enforcement officers((male) on evenings & weekends - he has wrote them thicketts and they disappear. - no that he said he cannot they are parking all over the place(with out of state tags) - on s Reynolds street there were 20 of them parked on the street all with the same phone # on them that came back to a car dealer in woodbridge and with parking at a premium these cars should be at the car dealership not on the streets of alexandria |

3. Do you believe that City Code Section 10-4-13(a) should be retained as part of the City's parking regulations?

Yes	23.9%		16
No	76.1%		51
Total			67

Comments

Count	Response
1	"Unnecessary laws are not good laws, but traps for money."
1	I feel that this should be removed
1	no just enforce answer #1
1	Why remove this ordinance when it could conceivably address a problem? A lack of citizen complaints at this time does not justify its removal if it might potentially be useful in preventing or addressing the subject "harm" in the future.
1	It seems unconstitutional. I can display a "Vote for Bart Simpson" bumper sticker or sign, but not a "buy this car"? Silly old law, make: get rid of it
1	I believe that this code should be retained as it lends itself to violation of other codes. Specifically those dealing with vehicles parked for more than 3 days in a public right away. I can envision cars being left for months at a time without consequence.
1	I am not sure how I feel about this. I do feel that if they are parked on the street, they should be moved every 72 hours. I do not think it is fair to park it there and just leave it until someone responds.
1	Keep "For sale" cars subject to the same no parking laws as everyone else, but aside from that, why go after them?
1	The practice of parking a vehicle for sale on the road is outdated and not effective. On-line and other methods are more efficient. Keeping in mind that not everyone has internet access at home, the library allows for public access to the internet. Parking a vehicle with a for sale sign on a public street is an eyesore.
1	it should have never been suspended in the first place since the person who tried to sue the city paid his ticket he got for a for sale sign
1	Given that Alexandria has so little street parking, I don't want cars being parked in those few spaces for the purpose of alerting others to the fact that the vehicles are for sale. Also, Alexandria is an attractive city and cars with "for sale" signs detract from the visual appeal of the city.
1	Why escalate to towing from a ticket? I believe towing for such an offense is clearly too extreme.
1	Repealing the law would remove the authority to manage this type of problem in the future. If people know that there is no authority to ticket or fine them, then they will be more likely to engage in the behavior that was deemed problematic enough to require the ordinance in the first place. Let's keep this authority on the books.
1	To be honest, I don't see this issue as being large enough to warrant a public discussion. I am sure in some areas there is a bigger impact than others but on this type of issue, I expect the city to dictate what they would like to present.
1	Why don't you repeal the other part of the law too, that says you can't do work on your own car, unless its in a garage, I guess. This has to be one of the most off broken laws in the city (and abusively paternalistic too).
1	If eliminating this law causes undesirable behaviors, it can always be put back into place in the future.
1	As long as the vehicle is legally parked, it should be completely legal to display a "For Sale" sign on the vehicle. If other traffic stops and blocks the public right of way, those vehicles should be ticketed.