

## Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Program – Quick FAQ

This FAQ explains how the Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Program is transitioning to an updated system and what, if any, action is required based on where you live.

### Why am I receiving this notice?

You are receiving this notice because your address is located within a Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Zone. Streets in these zones have time-limited parking except by permit. Your address is eligible to participate in the updated RPP program through a requalification process.

This notice explains the updates to the program and how residents can choose to participate through the registration and requalification process.

### How and when will my neighborhood transition to the updated RPP program?

All addresses currently included in the Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Program will transition to the updated RPP program through a phased requalification process. The transition begins with neighborhoods whose permits have already expired and continues with remaining neighborhoods based on existing permit expiration dates.

The phased approach allows the City to work directly with each neighborhood, provide clear communication, and ensure a smooth transition. Residents will receive a mailed notice when their neighborhood enters the requalification phase. No action is required until that notice is received.

General timing includes:

- **Cannery Row and New Monterey:** Requalification outreach began in January 2026
- **Old Monterey and Downtown Residential Neighborhoods:** Notices mailed by February 13, 2026
- **Oak Grove:** Existing permits remain valid through December 31, 2026, with requalification outreach anticipated in summer 2026

### What action, if any, do I need to take right now?

What action is required depends on whether your neighborhood has received a requalification notice. You can also refer to the “**How and when will my neighborhood transition to the updated Residential Parking Permit program?**” section above for a general timeline by neighborhood.

- **If you received a mailed notice:**  
Register online by the date listed in your notice to indicate whether you would like the Residential Parking Permit program to continue on your street. Registration is free and confirms interest only. No permit purchase is required at this stage.
- **If you did not receive a notice:**  
Your neighborhood is likely scheduled for a later phase, and you will receive a mailed notice before any changes occur or action is required. Deadlines apply only to neighborhoods that have received notice.
- **If you do not want to participate:**  
No action is required.

After the registration period closes for your neighborhood, the City will notify residents whether the zone has requalified and provide next steps if applicable.

### What is an RPP program and how does it help?

A Residential Parking Permit (RPP) Program is a resident-driven tool used in neighborhoods where parking demand from *outside influences* makes it difficult for residents to park near their homes. Parking pressure often comes from nearby:

- Commercial districts or business areas
- Adjacent cities or jurisdictions
- Event venues
- Schools or government agencies
- Recreational or tourist destinations

The RPP program does not restrict public access to City streets. The program helps manage parking resources so residents, guests, and visitors can share limited curb space equitably. RPP zones typically work by combining:

- Time limits for public parking, and
- Permit exemptions for residents and guests

### What is the Cannery Row RPP program and how does it help?

The Cannery Row RPP Program provides on-street parking permits to a limited number of residential addresses located within the Cannery Row commercial area. These parking permits allow residents to park without paying in the metered parking zone and help balance residential needs with public parking in a high demand area. The updated RPP program is only available to previously registered addresses.

### What is changing?

The RPP program is being modernized to create a more efficient, convenient and sustainable system. Key updates include:

- Virtual, license-plate-based permits (No sticker decals or paper permits)
- Online or in-person registration
- One permit per licensed driver, up to four permits per address
- Digital one-day guest passes (25 free per year)
- Existing zones must requalify to remain active

## What is changing for Cannery Row Residents?

Cannery Row is a unique area. Unlike most Residential Parking Permit (RPP) zones, it is a commercial district with metered parking. A limited number of residential addresses were previously approved to participate in the RPP program, which is being modernized to create a more efficient, convenient and sustainable system. Key updates include:

- Virtual license-plate-based permits (No sticker decals or paper permits)
- One permit per licensed driver, up to four permits per eligible address
- Guest passes are not available
- Online or in-person registration

## How many permits can my address have?

Each eligible address may receive **one permit per licensed driver**, with a maximum of four permits per address.

- A licensed driver must be a resident of the address.
- Each licensed driver qualifies for one vehicle permit

## What is a virtual or license-plate-based permit?

A virtual or license-plate-based permit means your vehicle's license plate is your parking permit. There are no decals, stickers, hangtags, or paper permits to display.

Once your vehicle is registered in the system, parking enforcement can verify your permit by checking your license plate electronically. This makes the program easier to use for residents and more accurate to enforce. Key benefits include:

- No decals or paper permits to manage or replace
- No risk of forgetting to display a permit
- Easy updates if you change vehicles
- Faster, more accurate enforcement

## Why is requalification required?

Because the RPP program has been updated, prior participation does not automatically continue. Requalification allows current residents to confirm whether they want the program to remain in place under the updated rules. The RPP is not mandatory and continues only where a majority of residents choose to participate.

## What is the requalification process?

A zone will stay in the RPP program if:

- At least **51% of eligible addresses register during the requalification period**, and
- The zone includes **at least four consecutive blocks**.

If both requirements are met, the City will confirm requalification and will begin selling permits.

## What happens if my zone does NOT requalify?

If the zone does **not** meet the requalification requirements, it means the majority of participating addresses did not register to continue the program.

If that happens:

- Time-limited parking signage will be removed
- All-day or longer-term parking will be available to non-residents. (The standard 72-hour parking rule will still apply citywide)
- Potential spillover parking may occur from nearby businesses, schools, or commuters
- No permits or fees required
- The zone must wait three years to reapply and would be required to meet the new zone criteria of 70% participation.

## What happens if my zone DOES requalify?

If your zone meets the requalification requirements, it means the majority of participating addresses chose to continue the program and want to keep the added parking protections it provides.

If that happens:

- Time limited parking restrictions, except by permit will remain
- Permit sales will begin after requalification is confirmed. Residents will be notified when permits are available for purchase.

## How much will permits cost?

- Each resident permit costs \$25 per year. (Max 4 per address)
- A no-cost permit option is available for qualifying low-income residents with required documentation.

## How much are guest passes?

Each eligible address receives 25 free one-day digital guest passes per year. Additional single-day guest passes may be purchased in sets of 25, up to a maximum of 100 passes per year.

- Pack 1: 25 one-day guest passes: Free
- Pack 2: 25 one-day guest passes: \$25
- Pack 3: 25 one-day guest passes: \$50
- Pack 4: 25 one-day guest passes: \$75

Guest passes are required only if a visitor will exceed the posted time limit **during enforcement hours**.

## How do the one-day guest passes work?

One-day guest passes are license-plate-based and are valid for one calendar day. They provide flexibility to use them one at a time, for consecutive days, or several at once for gatherings.

## Why are guest passes not available for Cannery Row?

Guest passes are not available in Cannery Row area to help manage parking in this high-demand commercial area where residents, businesses, employees and visitors all share parking resources.

## Why are permits no longer free?

The RPP program was created more than 40 years ago and has been modernized to include online registration, virtual permits, and improved enforcement. The permit fee helps cover program costs and ensures the RPP program remains sustainable for residents who choose to participate.

## Are all vehicles eligible for residential permits?

No. Residential permits are not valid for recreational vehicles (RVs) or oversized vehicles restricted by City code. Permits are intended for standard passenger vehicles.

## How long are *current* permits valid?

All current decals and paper guest passes will be honored **through April 30, 2026**.

## How do I get a permit?

After requalification is confirmed, permits will be available for purchase. Residents who registered will be notified when permits are available and provided with instructions on how to complete the process. At that time, you will need:

- Valid driver's license
- Vehicle registration (registered to resident)

### Where can I get more information?

**Visit:** [haveyoursaymonterey.org](http://haveyoursaymonterey.org)  
**Email:** [askparker@monterey.org](mailto:askparker@monterey.org)  
**Call:** (831) 646-3953