

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
FINDINGS

Case # TC-R-25-06

Date September 15, 2025

Petitioner/Author: 500 & 600 Blocks of W 8th Street

Location: Illinois St (W 12th St to W 15th St)

Approval Requested: Increase the time limit of existing limited parking zones on the south and portions of the north sides of W 8th St., between Rogers St. and Fairview St., from two hours to four hours.

Motion: Adopt the proposed findings and forward the resolution for an amendment to Section 15.32.080 related to the four hour limit on W 8th St. to the Council with a positive recommendation.

Vote: 6-0

The Transportation Commission adopts the Findings recommended by the staff as presented in the staff report,



Andrew Cibor
City Engineer

**BLOOMINGTON TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
STAFF REPORT**

CASE #: TC-R-25-06

Location: 500 & 600 Blocks of W 8th Street

MEETING DATE: September 15, 2025

PETITIONER: City of Bloomington
401 N. Morton St.

MEASURE UNDER CONSIDERATION: Increase the time limit of existing limited parking zones on the south and portions of the north sides of W 8th St., between Rogers St. and Fairview St., from two hours to four hours.

REPORT: The north and south sides of the 500 and 600 blocks of W 8th St., between N Rogers St. and N Fairview St., currently allow two-hour on-street parking from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with an exception for residents who hold a Zone 10 Residential Permit. N Fairview St. and N Jackson St. have similar restrictions. The 500 and 600 blocks of W 8th St. are identified as Neighborhood Residential in the Transportation Plan.

Surrounding land uses include commercial and residential to the north, and a place of worship and Fairview Elementary to the south. The Comprehensive Plan designates the area as Downtown, Institutional/Civic, and Mixed Urban Residential, and the area is in the Near West Side Neighborhood.

The City received a request from Second Baptist Church (321 N Rogers St.) to extend the limited parking zone on W 8th St. from two hours to four hours. The request would increase the two-hour limit to a four-hour limit adjacent to the church, school, and commercial use but maintain the existing two-hour limit when adjacent to residential uses. The request followed a series of parking citations issued to parishioners during funeral services and other church events. The layout of the Second Baptist Church does not allow for the creation of additional on-site parking, so parishioners must utilize on-street parking if they are driving to the church.

Staff has observed that non-residential areas of on-street parking are primarily short-term with frequent turnover. The commercial business to the north has on-site parking and does not appear to use the on-street parking spaces. Staff has also noted some parking related congestion at Fairview Elementary during pickup and drop off times, but does not believe that either the current use of the two-hour limit or the proposed four-hour limit contributes to these difficulties. Although portions of the street are designated Downtown, staff believes that the location itself, rather than the two hour limit, discourages long term parking.

The proposed change would amend Section 15.32.080 of the Municipal Code, Schedule N (Limited Parking Zones), as follows:

Schedule N				
Street	From	To	Side of Street	Limit

Eighth Street	Rogers Street	Jackson Street	South	4 hr. (13)
Eighth Street	Maple Street	Jackson Street	North	2 hr. (13)
Eighth Street	Jackson Street	Rogers Street	North	4 hr. (13)

(13) 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except with Zone 10 Residential Permit.

CRITERIA AND FINDINGS FOR TRANSPORTATION PROPOSED CHANGES TO TITLE 15 (Vehicles and Traffic)

2.12.070(d)(2): Review all transportation projects, proposed changes to Title 15 (Vehicles and Traffic), relevant proposed changes to Title 12 (Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewers), and other applicable changes to the Bloomington Municipal Code to determine if the proposed change:

- 1) *Is consistent with the comprehensive plan and other applicable city adopted plans.*

PROPOSED FINDING: The Transportation Plan identifies this portion of W 8th St. as neighborhood residential and gives guidance to allow for unmarked on-street parking. The Comprehensive Plan encourages the expansive use of on-street parking in the Downtown and Mixed Urban Residential areas.

- 2) *Is consistent with the best practices for eliminating all transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries within the city.*

PROPOSED FINDING: Well utilized on-street parking has a traffic calming effect by creating side friction that narrows travel lanes. This portion of W 8th St. is approximately 34 feet wide, which accounts for a 20 foot travel way and two 7 foot parking lanes. While this is a typical cross-section for Neighborhood Residential Streets, it is unusual for streets without consistent on-street parking usage. The extra width likely encourages higher vehicle speeds. Allowing longer-term parking along this section of W 8th St. should help encourage the traffic calming benefits of parked cars. On-street parking also acts as an additional barrier for integral sidewalks further separating pedestrians from vehicles.

- 3) *Is consistent with advancing a sustainable transportation system and equitable access to all transportation facility users while prioritizing non-automotive modes.*

PROPOSED FINDING: While on-street parking does not directly advance sustainable transportation, or prioritize non-automotive modes of transportation it does provide some safety benefits through traffic calming and providing buffering between travel ways and integral sidewalks. Those safety benefits will increase pedestrian mobility and access on W. 8th St.

- 4) *Has adequately conducted public engagement and considered community-centric design tied to targeted outcomes.*

PROPOSED FINDING: Staff contacted Fairview Elementary but has not heard back at this time. There is an allowance of 20 Neighborhood Residential Permits for employees of Fairview Elementary, which is not proposed to be changed and will allow those employees to park on W 8th St. without a time limit. The proposed changes will not affect portions of W 8th St. adjacent to residential uses, and should not prevent their continued use of the on-street parking.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Transportation Commission adopt the proposed findings and forward the resolution for an amendment to Section 15.32.080 related to the four hour limit on W 8th St. to the Council with a positive recommendation.