

ORDINANCE 7477

An Ordinance to amend the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance adopted by the Augusta, Georgia Commission effective September 16, 1997 by amending Section 4 (Off-Street Parking and Loading)

THE AUGUSTA COMMISSION HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION II. That the Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance is amended by adding the following language to Section 4 (Off-Street Parking and Loading)

4-8 Bicycle Parking – General Provisions

4-8-1 Statement of Intent: Establish and update parking standards to allow flexible parking strategies that are economical and encourage access management, mobility and accessibility for all travel modes and bicycle parking that create pedestrian friendly, environmentally sustainable and affordable developments.

4-8-2 Applicability: Bicycle parking requirements of this section shall apply to:

- a) Any new building greater than 1,200 square feet of gross floor area.
- b) Any existing building undergoing a change of use and or expansions and alterations, greater than 1,200 square feet of gross floor area.

4-8-3 Exemptions: The following uses shall not be required to provide bicycle parking:

- a) residential including one and two family dwellings
- b) fraternity and sorority houses
- c) private clubs, lodges and fraternal buildings not providing overnight accommodations
- d) automobile repair establishments
- e) convenience stores (gas/food marts) and similar establishments
- f) automobile washing and cleaning establishments
- g) automobile sales (new and used) and manufactured homes sales
- h) appliance stores
- i) furniture stores
- j) night clubs, taverns, lounges, and similar establishment

- k) mini warehouses
- l) manufacturing and industrial establishments
- m) wholesale trade establishments, warehouses

4-8-4 Required Bicycle Parking Spaces:

- a) For all required uses, a minimum of two short-term and two long-term bicycle parking spaces shall be provided.
- b) Bicycle parking must be provided at a rate of one bike space for every ten vehicle parking spaces.
- c) Whenever a site is exempted from the vehicular parking requirements, the required bicycle parking for the site shall still be calculated based upon the amount of vehicular parking that would have been required for that site.

4-8-5 General Requirement Standards: The following general requirements are specified:

- a) A bicycle parking space required by this ordinance shall be at least 6 feet long and 2 feet wide with a 5 foot access aisle.
- b) All required bicycle racks and facilities must be in accordance with the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals Bike Parking Guidelines (APBP).
- c) Whenever vehicle parking spaces are provided in a structure, all required bicycle spaces shall be located inside that structure or shall be located in other areas protected from the weather.

4-8-6 Types of Bicycle Parking:

- a) Short-Term Bicycle Parking. A type of parking is generally intended to accommodate visitors, customers, messengers, and other persons expected to park for a few minutes to depart within approximately two (2) hours.
- b) Long-Term Bicycle Parking. A type of parking is generally intended to accommodate employees, students, residents, commuters, and other persons who expect to leave their bicycle parked for more than 2 hours.

4-8-7 Bicycle Parking Requirements:

- a) Short-Term Bicycle Parking. Choose properly designed bicycle racks that support a bicycle's frame and are secure. Provides secure and functional parking that can support the bicycle upright on a horizontal plane.
 - 1. Short-term bicycle parking shall consist of bicycle racks that support the bicycle frame at two points. Racks that support only the wheel of the bicycle are not permissible.
 - i. Well-spaced racks allow for ease and efficiency of bicycle parking.
 - ii. Allow front-in and back-in parking.

- iii. Racks shall allow for the bicycle frame and at least one wheel to be locked to the racks.
- iv. The bicycle rack shall allow for the use of a cable as well as a U-shaped lock.
 - v. If bicycles can be locked to each side of the rack, each side shall be counted toward a required space.
 - vi. Racks shall be securely anchored to an approved paved surface.
 - vii. At least half of parking should be covered for short-term parking if more than ten (10) bicycles can be parked there.
- b) Long-Term Bicycle Parking. Long-term bicycle parking requires a high degree of security and weather protection, with well-designed racks in covered areas, lockers, storage rooms, or fenced areas (enclosed on all sides) with restricted access.
 - 1. Acceptable examples of long-term bicycle parking include bicycle lockers or cages that are well maintained and have good placement locations. Long-term bicycle parking shall be secured from the general public. Acceptable examples of some enhanced security measures may include variable levels of entry control to facilities, whereas access to bicycle facilities is restricted and or monitored parking.

4-8-8 Siting Requirements: Required bicycle parking shall be provided on the same lot as the use for which it is intended to serve.

- a) Short-Term Bicycle Parking. For new buildings, short-term bicycle parking shall be located to maximize visibility from the main entrance. For existing buildings where exterior space may be inadequate, short-term bicycle parking may be on the level of the parking garage closest to the ground floor with a direct access to a public street.
 - 1. Location shall be within a convenient distance of, and clearly visible from the main entrance to the building as determined by the city, but it shall not be farther than the closest automobile parking space.
 - 2. For buildings with more than one main pedestrian entrance, short term bicycle parking shall be split evenly among all main pedestrian entrances.
 - 3. Signage is required at each building entrance for bicycle parking locating within buildings or parking garages.
- b) Long-Term Bicycle Parking. Long-term bicycle parking shall be provided in a well- lit, secure location within a convenient distance of a main entrance. A secure location is defined as one in which the bicycle parking is:
 - 1. A bicycle locker,
 - 2. A lockable bicycle enclosure,
 - 3. Provided within a lockable room, or
 - 4. All required long-term bicycle parking spaces shall be sheltered from precipitation.

4-8-9 Lighting Requirements: Adequate lighting shall be provided to ensure safe access to bicycle parking facilities.

- a) Provide a well-lit path from the building entrance to both short-term and long-term bicycle parking.
- b) Clearly light short-term, long-term parking, and signage.
- c) Use direct “dark sky” compliant lighting that is consistent and glare-free to provide even light distribution.
- d) Bicycle parking provided in a structure or under cover shall be illuminated with twice the amount of light as auto parking spaces.

4-8-10 Signage: If required bicycle parking is not visible from the street or main building entrance, a sign must be posted at the main building entrance indicating the location of the parking. In parking structures, signs shall be installed to indicate the location of the bicycle parking.

4-8-11 Parking Structures: Bicycle parking provided in a structure or under cover shall be:

- a) At ground level
- b) free of charge
- c) clearly marked
- d) located in a location that (1) is illuminated with twice the amount of light as auto parking spaces, (2) is separated from auto parking by some form of barrier to minimize the possibility of parked bicycles being hit by an automobile, either, no farther from the vehicular entrance/exit than the nearest vehicular parking space OR no farther from the pedestrian entrance/exit than the nearest vehicular parking space.

4-8-12 Reduction of Vehicle Parking for Bicycle Parking: The number of required off-street vehicle parking spaces may be reduced where bicycle parking is provided.

- a) Bicycle parking spaces may be used to replace new and existing vehicle parking spaces at a ratio of two bicycle parking spaces for every one vehicle parking space.
- b) Up to a maximum of 5% of the total vehicle parking spaces required, and 7% of the vehicle parking spaces required for uses related to public assembly, may be replaced with bicycle parking spaces

4-8-13 Abandoned Bicycle Policy: A bicycle shall be deemed abandoned if it has been parked at the same location for seven consecutive calendar days. The property owner is responsible for the removal of abandoned bicycles. Abandoned bicycles may be donated to non-profits that reuse bicycles or may be disposed of in any lawful manner.

4-8-14 Exceptions: Exceptions to the requirement to provide bicycle parking may be allowed in some cases and areas. Situations where an exception may be made include the following:

- a) Where a showing is made that it is physically not feasible to provide bicycle parking or in areas where significant levels of cycling are unlikely and where alternative means of bicycle parking are likely available. These exceptions may be approved administratively by the Augusta Planning and Development Department's Director or designee.
- b) Where a showing is made that joint bicycle parking facilities are provided for two or more establishments. Co-location of bicycle parking facilities at adjacent location.

SECTION II. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Duly adopted by the Augusta-Richmond County Commission this _____ day of _____, 2015.

MAYOR, AUGUSTA COMMISSION
AUGUSTA, GEORGIA

ATTEST:

LENA BONNER, CLERK

First Reading: _____

Second Reading: _____

*Signed copy on file in Augusta Planning and Development Dept. office