

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

OVERNIGHT PARKING ORDINANCE

BACKGROUND:

The Roads Division of the Nevada County Public Works Department is responsible for allowing for safe and efficient movement of people and goods that support the General Plan and the local economy. Access and connectivity, economic development, public safety and emergency response, quality of life, and traffic management are important to protect our residents, visitors, emergency services, and commerce. When public roads are used for camping or extended parking, communities can be negatively impacted by unsafe travelling conditions impacting driveways, shoulder width, and drainage, putting occupants of the vehicle in unsafe situations and resulting in litter and/or contaminants entering storm drainage systems from vehicle fluids and human waste.

Currently, Nevada County Administrative Code includes several sections limiting parking including:

- Section 16.03.090 - Parking Prohibitions includes prohibitions on specific roads.
- Section 16.03.220 - Prohibiting the Parking or Storing of Vehicles in Excess of Seventy-Two (72) Consecutive Hours on County Roads, peace officers can write tickets for violating this section.

Options to prohibit camping or extended parking on public roads include:

- 1) Time limitations can be added to certain parking areas. This would require updating Section 16.03.090-Parking Prohibitions of the County Code and listing the specific roads and parking areas to which the time limit applies.
- 2) Section 16.03.220 - Prohibiting the Parking or Storing of Vehicles in Excess of Seventy-Two (72) Consecutive Hours on County Roads could be revised to reduce the allowed number of hours of storage if vehicles on county roads and/or it could be revised to specify a certain distance of road to enforce the intent of this section and reduce the tendency of people moving their vehicle a few feet to restart the 72 hour time limit.
- 3) An ordinance could be adopted to establish a new code section that would prohibit camping or sleeping in vehicles on certain county roads or on all county roads.

With any of the options above, signs would have to be erected and the cost per sign can vary depending on type and location, typically \$500 to \$1,500 per sign (including installation).

With Board direction, staff can further evaluate prohibition of parking on county roads and bring additional information to the Board for consideration.