



# The Willard Neighborhood Association

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## **Camping in the Parking Strip**

### **I. Needed conditions to enforce PC647(j) – no lodging in public spaces**

Sidewalk and parking strip are public property  
Blocking the sidewalk is covered by BMC 13.36.10

- 1) Only at night (this interpretation was made by the City Attorney)
- 2) Must have belongings such as bedroll and other items (this interpretation was made by the City Attorney)

### **II. Enforcement begins with resident's complaint.**

BPD non-emergency phone 981-5900

Complain about anyone sleeping in the parking strip or on the sidewalk, not just in front of your own property. Its important to make the point that this neighborhood is not a good place to bed down.

2 warnings are given before citation can be issued  
Council Resolution 60142 (warning section may be repealed by Public Commons Initiative)

Responding officer will allow the camper reasonable time to comply with warning then will give second warning if there is still no compliance within a reasonable time a citation will be issued. In almost all cases the person leaves after being warned.

If someone has small warrants outstanding, the police use that as leverage to say, "If you don't move along, then I'll have to arrest you on the outstanding warrants".

If someone has major warrants outstanding, the police will arrest them and take them to jail.

For people with mental or drug issues, the police use the same protocol in all cases. If their problem is not just that they need a place to sleep, then they will be directed to other services, or taken there if need be.

If they move only a short distance, its the officer's discretion as to whether this constitutes a need for new set of warnings but a new complaint will definitely restart the process.

### **III. What information should the resident have when calling in complaint?**

Your address  
Your name  
Request to move camper  
Location of camper  
Description of camper (whatever description you can provide)

### **IV. What can we do to help the police?**

Keep porch lights on at night / keep shrubs trimmed back.  
Light up the front of your house and the sidewalk.

WNA will switch out your porch light for a compact fluorescent if you agree to leave it on all night."

### **V. What about camping in the local parks?**

Willard Park – call BPD  
City parks close at 10 pm  
Anyone there after 10pm gets moved on.

Peoples Park – call UCPD  
510-642-6760

BPD Area Coordinator – Officer Steve Burcham 981-5778

If you would like to get involved in the WNA, please contact Joe Halperin at 981-1993 or [joelynn@comcast.net](mailto:joelynn@comcast.net)