



County of Monterey

Item No.

Board Report

Board of Supervisors
Chambers
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: ORD 26-001

February 10, 2026

Introduced: 2/4/2026

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: Ordinance

- a. Introduce, waive first reading, and set March 10, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. as the date and time to consider adoption of an ordinance adding Section 12.28.013 to Title 12 of the Monterey County Code to prohibit oversized vehicle parking at all times with tow away authorization on Railroad Avenue on both sides from the centerline of Salinas Road easterly to its end, and Allison Road on both sides between Railroad Avenue and San Juan Road, in the unincorporated area of Monterey County.
- b. Find that the adoption of the ordinance is categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to sections 15301(c) and 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines because the action will involve negligible changes to the existing County regulations that govern the existing County highways and streets, and the action is for the protection of the environment.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Find that the adoption of the ordinance is categorically exempt under CEQA pursuant to sections 15301(c) and 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines because the action will involve negligible changes to the existing County regulations that govern the existing County highways and streets, and the action is for the protection of the environment; and
- b. Introduce, waive first reading, and set March 10, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. as the date and time to consider adoption of an ordinance adding Section 12.28.013 to Title 12 of the Monterey County Code to prohibit oversized vehicle parking with with tow away authorization on Railroad Avenue on both sides from the centerline of Salinas Road easterly to its end, and Allison Road on both sides between Railroad Avenue and San Juan Road, in the unincorporated area of Monterey County.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

In response to community concerns, Supervisorial District 2 prepared Board Referral No. 2025.11 seeking to adopt an ordinance to prohibit recreational vehicles parking on the entirety of Railroad Avenue, establish a tow-away zone, and authorizing the immediate removal of vehicles that violate this no-parking restriction. Railroad Avenue is a County maintained road in the Pajaro community, an unincorporated community south of the City of Watsonville. It is Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP) staff understanding from the Board Referral, that roadside parking of recreational vehicles on Railroad Avenue has created a consistent and increasing public health and safety concern for the community and businesses of Pajaro, particularly regarding unhoused persons living in oversized vehicles along this road without appropriate services, disruptions for residents and businesses, crime, traffic hazards caused by parked vehicles blocking travel lanes, and the illegal dumping of trash and

refuse.

On November 4, 2025, Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP) provided the Board of Supervisors a preliminary analysis report in response to said Board referral. The Board added Allison Road for consideration, due to concerns with food safety. The Board also indicated the need for a Safe Parking Program in North Monterey County, as a location for unhoused individuals who would be displaced, and directed staff to explore options to facilitate a Safe Parking Program.

For months, the staff of the CAO-Homelessness Strategies and Initiatives Division, the Environmental Health Bureau (EHB), Monterey County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) Vehicle Abatement, California Highway Patrol (CHP), Housing and Community Development (HCD), the Office of the County Counsel, and PWFP have been contending with complaints of illegal dumping/litter, oversized vehicles parking and causing health and safety issues, parked campers, and other issues, including potential food safety issues, in this area of Pajaro. Much of this same team has been working to identify a Safe Parking Program in North Monterey County. The proposed ordinance would add Section 12.28.013 to Chapter 12.28 - STOPPING, STANDING AND PARKING of Title 12 - VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC of the Monterey County Code.

Based on the feedback and research conducted by staff, a new section of Title 12 of Monterey County Code must be established to achieve the objectives of the Board Referral request. Staff proposes an ordinance to add this new section. The ordinance will also codify the definition of an "oversized vehicle" because a definition does not exist in State law (the California Vehicle Code).

The proposed ordinance is for the protection of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the County constituents and visitors in the Pajaro community.

To address the campers parking on Railroad Avenue, PWFP proposes to install "No Illegal Camping" signage, consistent with the already-existing Section 14.18.020(B) of Title 14 of the Monterey County Code, which prohibits camping between the hours of six p.m. (6:00PM) and six a.m. (6:00AM) on any public road. However, the proposed ordinance would apply to all times, without reference to time of day.

This proposed ordinance is one component of a broader County strategy that includes continued pursuit of a Safe Parking Program and coordination with service providers to connect unhoused individuals to shelter, sanitation, and housing resources.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

PWFP staff have been working with Housing Community Development (HCD), Office of the County Counsel, Monterey County Sheriff's Office (MCSO), CAO-Homelessness Strategies and Initiatives Division, County Environmental Health Bureau (EHB), California Highway Patrol (CHP), and others. The Office of the County Counsel has approved the ordinance as to legal form.

FINANCING:

Adoption of this ordinance requires the posting of appropriate signage. These traffic control devices will be funded by the Road Fund. The cost to install the necessary signage is estimated at \$6,000.

Sufficient funds are available in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26 Recommended Budget for the Road Fund 002, Appropriation Unit PFP004 to finance this work.

CEQA:

The adoption of the ordinance is categorically exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to sections 15301(c) and 15308 of the CEQA Guidelines because the action will involve negligible changes to the existing County regulations that govern the existing County highways and streets, and the action is for the protection of the environment.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

The recommended action supports the Board of Supervisors' Strategic Plan Goals for Well-Being and Quality of Life, and Safe and Resilient Communities. These services will enhance the County's transportation safety and accessibility, improving the quality of life for County residents.

- Well-Being and Quality of Life
- Sustainable Infrastructure for the Present and Future
- Safe and Resilient Communities
- Diverse and Thriving Economy
- Administrative

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Reviewed by: Enrique Saavedra, PE, Chief of Public Works

Approved by: Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE, Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks

Attachments:

Attachment A - Board Referral No. 2025.11

Attachment B - Draft Ordinance

Attachment C - Location Map

(Attachments on file with Clerk of the Board)