

Residential Handicapped Parking Space Program

The Residential Handicapped Parking Program was created as a convenience to Somerville drivers with disabilities who can document the need for a reserved space. Reserved spaces are not provided for vehicles involved in the pick-up/ drop-off of passengers with disabilities. Reserved spaces are only provided to handicapped residents who routinely utilize their vehicle.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a disabled person, have a valid driver's license, and a vehicle registered in his or her name. In addition, the driver must have a Health Care Provider verify the applicant's disability and have a landlord verify that suitable off-street parking is not available (if applicable). The applicant's vehicle registration must be a handicapped registration unless a copy of the applicant's RMV issued handicapped placard is submitted. In some cases, the Traffic Commission may consider applications from relatives of disabled persons, such as the parents of disabled children or for children of severely disabled adults who require full time care. The applicant must be a cohabitant of the disabled person and verification will be required.

If a designated handicapped space is provided for your use, please be aware the law permits anyone with a handicapped plate or placard to use that space. It is not provided for your exclusive use. Rather, it is reserved for all disabled persons with appropriate plates or placards and resident permit.

The City Traffic Engineer will review the vicinity of the proposed location to ensure the space will not cause undue hazard to the public. Upon completion of this review, the application will be considered by the Traffic Commission. The Traffic Commission has undertaken the Residential Handicapped Parking Program voluntarily and in the best interests of the citizens of Somerville. The Traffic Commission and/or the City of Somerville reserve the right to disapprove requests for spaces for legal and/or public safety reasons. All approvals must be renewed every two years and documentation of a continued need may be required at that time.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please do not hesitate to contact the Department of Traffic & Parking dial 311 (from within the City of Somerville) or 617-666-3311 (from outside the city). You may also contact the ADA Coordinator at extension 2323. Either department may be contacted for TTY access at 1-866-808-4581.

Should the reserved space no longer be needed, regulations require the space be removed. Please notify the Department of Traffic & Parking within thirty days if there is any change in residency or eligibility status.