

Program 4.G: Measure D Ballot Initiative. As part of the current effort to update the Albany General Plan, initiate preparation of a ballot measure to revise the two space per unit residential parking requirement required by Measure D (1978). This revision would recommend more proportional ways to calculate parking requirements (e.g., based upon unit size, number of bedrooms, unit type, and the population served, with special exemptions for senior housing, proximity to transit, or available land for parking in the immediate neighborhood).

Description:

As noted in the Constraints chapter of this Element, Measure D was approved by Albany voters 35 years ago in response to concerns about on-street parking. The voter initiative may no longer reflect the best solution to managing parking on City streets, and may make it more difficult and costly to construct housing.

A program to amend Measure D through a subsequent ballot initiative has been in the Albany Housing Element since 1992. The current effort to update the City's General Plan provides an opportunity to move the program forward. While the ballot measure itself might not occur until the next (2015-2022) planning period, the process of studying alternatives, impacts and best practices will begin during the current planning period.

Amendments to Measure D should ensure that resident concerns about parking impacts are still addressed. However, more nuanced solutions should be developed to account for the different demand characteristics of different housing types as well as parking conditions on local streets.

Responsible Parties: City Manager, Planning Division, Public Works
 Timing: Spring 2014 (to initiate)
 Funding: General Fund (staff time)