



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 17, 2020

## **City of Gloucester Announces Emergency Parking Order and Introduces Rangers**

*--Dozens of Streets Temporarily Designated Residents Only*

**GLOUCESTER, MA** – Mayor Sefatia Romeo Theken today announced an emergency order that temporarily designates nearly three dozen streets resident parking only. Additionally, the City is pleased to introduce Rangers who will assist staff at Stage Fort Park and City beaches.

This past weekend, the City of Gloucester experienced severe beach traffic and parking issues that have raised public safety concerns with City Officials throughout several neighborhoods. The Gloucester Police Department issued **478** parking tickets, a significant increase from the same time period the year before.

Mayor Romeo Theken said, “We are looking at every way we can to make the inconveniences of parking issues easier for residents. The patterns of our daily lives will be different for a while because of the ongoing pandemic. It is our hope that these parking measures will make one aspect of that less stressful.”

By emergency order, citing public safety concerns, the following streets are temporarily being made resident parking only. This will help limit non-resident on street parking in several neighborhoods and allow better enforcement by the police department. This will be seasonal and temporary as Ward Councilors work towards making it permanent.

The impacted streets are:

- Hartz Street
- Tolman Street
- Williams Court
- Harrison Avenue
- Eastern Avenue, easterly side from Hartz Street to Abbott Road

- Eastern Avenue, southerly side from its intersection with Williams Court in an easterly direction to its intersection with Hartz Street
- Elizabeth Road
- Abbott Road
- Marina Drive
- Loma Drive
- Puerto Drive
- Rio Drive
- Cabo Drive
- Brightside Avenue
- Traverse Street
- Farrington Avenue
- Edgemoor Road
- Stage Fort Avenue
- Beachmont Avenue
- Tolman Avenue
- Crowell Avenue
- Old Salem Road
- Hough Avenue
- Windsor Lane
- Witham Street
- Fenley Road
- Cedarwood Road
- Dornell Road
- Bond Street
- Marshfield Street
- Cross Street
- Decatur Street
- Sayward Street

The Department of Public Works will be posting signage in a phased approach over the next several days on these streets. Residents are asked to pay attention if signage has been posted on their streets as Gloucester Police will have extra enforcement scheduled throughout the weekend.

As a resident, if you need to park a car on the street, please make sure you have a 2019 or 2020 Beach Sticker displayed, a Resident Parking Sticker (available for \$5 from Collector's Office, tel.

978-281-9735) or clearly display your car registration on the dashboard. If you lease a vehicle, display a utility bill showing a Gloucester name and address on your dashboard.

A reminder for resident entry into the lots at Stage Fort Park and Good Harbor and Wingersheek beaches you will need to display a 2019/2020 beach parking sticker or license/motor vehicle registration showing a Gloucester address. A resident sticker is not permitted for access to these lots.

Beginning this weekend, a Ranger Program has begun in Gloucester. Working with Orion Services, Inc., the Rangers will be out throughout the weekend at Stage Fort Park and city beaches. They will assist City staff, give a face to those public spaces, ensure a positive experience for all patrons, monitor safety at these locations and serve as a liaison between park and beach visitors and City staff.

Mayor Romeo Theken said, "I have been interested in reintroducing this type of program to Gloucester. As we work through extraordinary traffic, parking issues as well as an influx of visitors the additional presence throughout our recreational spaces will enhance the City's ability to monitor and address issues."

For this weekend, at times, traffic may be extremely congested. As always, drivers and pedestrians should exercise caution and patience navigating through and around Stage Fort Park and our beach areas. The City of Gloucester appreciates everyone's patience and cooperation.

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