

PCCO/OIF Parking Policy Proposal (Draft2)

1. Goal:

To be good stewards for the parking lot God gives us to make the lot serve its primary purpose- ministering to people and bring glory to Him.

2. Purpose of enforcement:

- a. Get rid of outside cars so that the normal ministry functions are not in jeopardy.
- b. By announcing the policy to our own congregation, it will be good education for people to understand the principle and reduce the potential misuse of the lot.

3. Policy:

- a. In principle, primarily, only people or groups who are doing ministry-related or church-authorized activities, regardless if they are our members, should park in our parking lot during weekdays.
- b. Friday evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays, the lot should primarily reserve for cell groups, worship teams, and Sunday worshippers who are meeting at church.

4. Implementation:

- a. Make church-issued parking permits available to our whole congregation and authorized outside groups.
- b. The parking permit includes names, contact phone numbers, reasons for parking and effective period.
- c. The parking permits can be available at the welcome table, so that any church attendees or whoever needs to do things at church can have access to the permits.
- d. The authorized outside groups are given the valid permits by our church (Philip).
- e. The authorized cars should place church-issued parking permits in their cars. Cars without permits will be towed periodically.
- f. We do not need to police the lot regularly to avoid too much human overhead. Only periodic towing at our “parking – executers” convenience is enough.
- g. Before implementing towing, enough warning should be given by placing warning signs on the parked cars and by announcing the policy to our congregation and other relevant parties. Appropriate warning period should be 1 to 2 weeks.
- h. When implementing towing, we should pray for wisdom to exercise both “truth” and “grace” (John 1:14) at the same time for our own people. Our goal is not to penalize people, but to make the lot function the way it intends to. Thus, we should try to tow as little as possible, but try to advise our own people to exercise courtesy abiding to our parking policy. If

possible, we should seek out these people in a friendly, godly, and kind manners, and let all of us work together to make the lot functional for ministries.

- i. Primarily, the lot is reserved for the “ministry-related” reasons. However, infrequent parking for personal events or emergency is permitted, to make the lot available to our people for convenience. With that said, we should still discourage regular long-term parking (working, schooling, etc.), even for our members.
- j. The “effective period” or “expiration date” on the parking permit is only served to avoid long-term misuse by inactive church goers. There should be a grace period when new permits are issued, so that parking lot users can have enough time to obtain valid permits. To void too much human overhead, the “effective period” can be long, say, a whole year or every 6 months.
- k. For special events, such as VBS, we should advise ALL parties, including normally authorized cars, not to park in the lot during the event period, so that the lot can be reserved for event participants. If appropriate, additional enforcement methods might be in place, such as chaining up the lot in the evenings.
- l. Authorized “parking – executers”: (we didn’t discuss about this) Pastor, Elder, Philip, Jay, and Long Ping. Additionally, heads of the special event group (such as heads of VBS, Women’s bible study, worship team, etc.) should be given the authority to tow the unauthorized cars.