

ORDINANCE NO. 267-26

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FARMINGTON, WASHINGTON, ESTABLISHING NO-PARKING REGULATIONS AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON (RCW) CHAPTERS 46.61 AND 46.63.

WHEREAS, RCW 46.61.570 authorizes towns to prohibit or restrict stopping, standing, or parking on streets and highways under their jurisdiction by ordinance or official traffic-control devices for public safety, traffic flow, maintenance, snow removal, or other public purposes; and

WHEREAS, parking violations are civil infractions under RCW 46.63, with penalties processed through Whitman County District Court; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Farmington finds that designated no-parking zones are necessary to ensure safety, access for emergency services, snow removal on narrow rural streets, and efficient use of limited public rights-of-way in this small community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Farmington, Washington, as follows:

Section 1. Prohibition on Parking in Designated Areas. Except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or the direction of a law enforcement officer or official traffic-control device, no person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle: (a) In any area designated as a "No Parking," "No Stopping," "Tow-Away," or similar zone by official signs or pavement markings installed by the Town of Farmington Public Works or authorized official; or (b) In any location prohibited by state law under RCW 46.61.570 (incorporated by reference), including but not limited to sidewalks, intersections, crosswalks, fire hydrants, driveways, bridges, railroad tracks, or within specified distances of traffic controls or fire stations.

This ordinance supplements existing Town parking regulations and state law.

Section 2. Designation of No-Parking Zones. The Town Council, or the Town's authorized representative (such as the Mayor or Public Works designee), may establish, modify, or remove no-parking zones by resolution, written order, or installation of MUTCD-compliant signs/markings. Zones may be designated for reasons including but not limited to traffic safety, street maintenance, snow removal, emergency access, special events, or protection of public property. Temporary restrictions (e.g., for road work, events, or seasonal snow) may be imposed without additional ordinance.

Section 3. Enforcement. Violations shall be enforced by the Whitman County Sheriff's Office or other authorized officers as civil infractions under RCW 46.63. Notices of infraction shall be issued and processed per state law and Whitman County District Court procedures.

Vehicles posing an immediate hazard or blocking access may be towed and impounded immediately at the owner's expense pursuant to RCW 46.55.

Vehicles left on public streets without use for their intended purpose beyond reasonable periods may be declared a public nuisance subject to removal; however, no such action shall be taken until the vehicle has remained in violation for a minimum of three (3) consecutive days.

Section 4. Penalties. (a) **Base Monetary Penalties** (recommended schedule; final amounts effective upon adoption and recommendation to Whitman County District Court):

- First violation within any 12-month period: **\$50.00**
- Second violation within any 12-month period: **\$75.00**
- Third and subsequent violations within any 12-month period: **\$100.00**

(b) **Enhanced Penalties** (where applicable):

- Parking in a fire lane, within 15 feet of a fire hydrant, blocking emergency access, or other serious safety violations: **\$100-\$250**.
- Disability parking violations: As prescribed by RCW 46.16A.200 and RCW 46.63.110 (typically \$450 or higher).
- Failure to respond to a notice of infraction: Up to **\$25.00** additional, per RCW 46.63.110(4).

(c) All penalties are in addition to towing/storage fees, court assessments, and any other costs authorized by law. The Town Council may adopt or amend a detailed penalty schedule by resolution and recommend it to the Whitman County District Court.

Section 5. Payment and Contesting. Notices of infraction shall provide options to pay, contest, or request mitigation within the timelines set by RCW 46.63 and Whitman County District Court rules. Unpaid penalties may result in withholding of vehicle registration renewal under RCW 46.16A.120.

Section 6. Severability. If any provision of this ordinance is held invalid, the remainder shall remain in effect.

Section 7. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after final passage and publication as required by law.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Farmington, Washington, this 18th day of May 2026.



Josh Gamez, Mayor

ATTEST:


Jamie Erickson, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: 

Bishop Law, Town Attorney

PASSED: 5.18.2026

APPROVED: 5.18.2026

PUBLISHED: 6.8.2026