On-Street Shared Vehicle [Car Sharing] Parking Permits – Enforcement and Maintenance
May 2024

The SFMTA On-Street Shared Vehicle Permit Program administers permits for curbside parking spaces for dedicated shared vehicle use. The program was established in July 2017 after being tested as a pilot project starting in 2013. The on-street shared vehicle parking permit is defined and conditioned under SF Transportation Code Section 911.

At present, three Vehicle Sharing Organizations (VSOs) are qualified to participate in the permit program:

Zipcar, Getaround, and Truqit

Permitted shared vehicle parking spaces are marked with red curb, a solid white stripe outline, and a NO STOPPING sign and VSO emblem on a short sign post. Here is a Zipcar space at Funston Avenue at Fulton Street:
A red & white NO STOPPING sign faces the street and displays the permitted VSO’s emblem in the center of the sign, and a VSO emblem and information are displayed on the sidewalk-facing side of the post. City CarShare signs are shown here for example (no longer operating in San Francisco):

Here are the emblems for Zipcar, Truqit, and Getaround:
Shared vehicles do not display a parking permit. VSOs may place any fleet vehicle in a permitted shared vehicle parking space, as long as the vehicle displays the VSO’s emblem prominently on each side of the vehicle, and the vehicle is less than 72 inches in height.

**Enforcement**

Okay – no cite:
VSO emblem on NO STOPPING sign matches VSO emblem on vehicle parked in space

Not okay – cite (and order tow if advised):
VSO emblem on NO STOPPING sign does not match VSO emblem on vehicle parked in space

For example:

- Zipcar space + Zipcar vehicle – pass ‘em by
- Zipcar space + Getaround vehicle – cite & tow ‘em
- Zipcar space + anonymous car – cite & tow ‘em

Do note that there are some permitted spaces in pairs and triplets, and spaces can get reversed temporarily – use discretion if e.g. a Zipcar is in a U-Haul space next to a U-Haul van in a Zipcar space.

Shared vehicles parked in designated on-street spaces are exempt from street cleaning regulations (see “Maintenance” section below) and RPP time limit restrictions.

**Maintenance**

Maintenance of on-street shared vehicle parking is an explicit condition of the on-street car share permit:

Permittee shall be responsible for maintaining the designated Shared Vehicle Parking Space and twenty-five feet in front and behind the space. Permittee shall maintain this area in such a manner that it shall remain free of debris, trash, glass, garbage, or other obstacles at a level consistent with the surrounding parking spaces to the satisfaction of the SFMTA and Department of Public Works. Permittee shall sweep and clean the parking space as needed and as determined by SFMTA.

If maintenance problems are observed in a designated on-street shared vehicle parking space it should be reported to SFMTA Parking / Sustainable Streets. VSOs who fail to maintain any of
their spaces will be warned, and if SFMTA and/or SF Public Works aren’t satisfied with their response and ongoing maintenance performance the permit will be revoked, and/or the space will be made available to another qualified VSO.

SFMTA Parking Control Officers: Please note VSO and location of parking space (e.g. “Zipcar, 300 block of Washington St”) and nature of maintenance problem on the back of the DPT Maintenance Request form for any problems observed at shared vehicle parking spaces.

Public Works street cleaning: Please report location of parking space (e.g. “Getaround, 1200 block of 34th Ave”) and nature of maintenance problem on the back of the DPT Maintenance Request form for any problems observed at shared vehicle parking spaces.

**Construction closures and tows**

SFPW administers construction closure permitting. Advance notification of permittee is required when construction (excavation, material staging, etc) will disturb a permitted shared vehicle space, though sometimes a construction permittee may not have contacted the SFMTA or VSOs before work begins. **Please hold off towing any shared vehicle in its permitted space** and contact VSO operations and SFMTA administration. Contact information for VSOs and SFMTA administration is maintained at this web address for reference:

bit.ly/shareops

Please contact the appropriate VSO and give them as much time as feasible to move the vehicle before ordering a tow.

**Questions & comments**

Andy Thornley
SFMTA Parking & Curb Management / Sustainable Streets
415.646.2162
andy.thornley@sfmta.com