



SALLIE ALCORN
Houston City Council Member
At-Large, Position 5

July 13, 2022

The Honorable Phillip Cortez
Chairman, Urban Affairs Committee
Texas House of Representatives
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, Texas 78711-2910

Dear Chairman Cortez,

Over the last two legislative sessions, the City of Houston has supported legislation to convert yard parking from a criminal offense to a civil offense. Currently, law enforcement must issue a criminal citation face-to-face with the accused instead of leaving the citation on the windshield. This amendment would only apply to neighborhoods electing to participate in the prohibited yard parking (PYP) program by submitting an application, which includes a petition signed by at least 60% of residents. There are currently 197 neighborhoods utilizing this tool to help protect property values and preserve the aesthetic appearance of single-family residential areas.

This legislation is a priority for our local constituents. As chair of the Regulatory and Neighborhood Affairs Committee, I recently held a meeting to discuss enforcement issues associated with the PYP program. Council members and several members of the public provided testimony at the committee meeting expressing frustration with lack of enforcement.

In addition to PYP, we also discussed issues with large and commercial vehicles parking on city streets in residential areas. There were a few calls for action, including holding registration for repeat offender truck owners abusing the law. As this may require action by the state, I plan to work with the mayor's government relations team and Harris County to further explore avenues for better enforcement.

I am interested in working with members of the Urban Affairs Committee to advance these efforts further during the upcoming legislative session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sallie Alcorn".

Sallie Alcorn