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BACK-IN ANGLE PARKING PILOT LAUNCHED ON EIGHTH AVENUE

New parking configuration is intended to enhance safety

5/18/17, Asbury Park, NJ – The City of Asbury Park has striped back-in angled parking on the south side of Eighth Avenue between Webb Street and Kingsley Street. As a result of a request from nearby residents to increase parking in the area, parallel parking spaces were converted to back-in (reverse) angle parking spaces. Through the conversion, five parking spaces were gained.

This marks the first instance of back-in angle parking spaces in Asbury Park. Back-in angle parking has been implemented in several cities in New Jersey and across the country, including Red Bank, Sea Bright and Hoboken. This parking configuration is cited by transportation engineers as being safer, particularly for cyclists and pedestrians.

“There are a number of benefits to back-in angle parking,” said the City’s Transportation Manager Mike Manzella. “For the driver, pulling out of a space allows for better visibility of oncoming traffic. Cyclists are more visible to drivers pulling out of the back-in angle spaces, when compared to parallel or head-in angle spaces. Loading and unloading becomes safer since all car doors (including the trunk) now open to the sidewalk instead of towards the street with head-in angle parking. The backing maneuver may be unfamiliar at first, but similar configurations in other municipalities have quickly found praise once drivers are used to it.”

The operation of backing into a reverse angle space can be described in 3 steps:

1. Signal: Use turn signal to indicate intention to enter a parking space.
2. Stop: Pull ahead of the intended space and then stop to make sure traffic stops behind you.
3. Reverse: Reverse into the parking space.

“New parking configurations do take some getting used to,” said City Manager Michael Capabianco. “The City will be evaluating the operation of the new configuration over the coming months to make sure the transition is smooth. If it is found favorable, we will consider converting other parking spaces to back-in angle as we move forward with road improvement projects.”

“We are always looking for ways to increase parking supply where it’s needed, increase safety and try something different in order to achieve both of those goals,” said Mayor John Moor.