

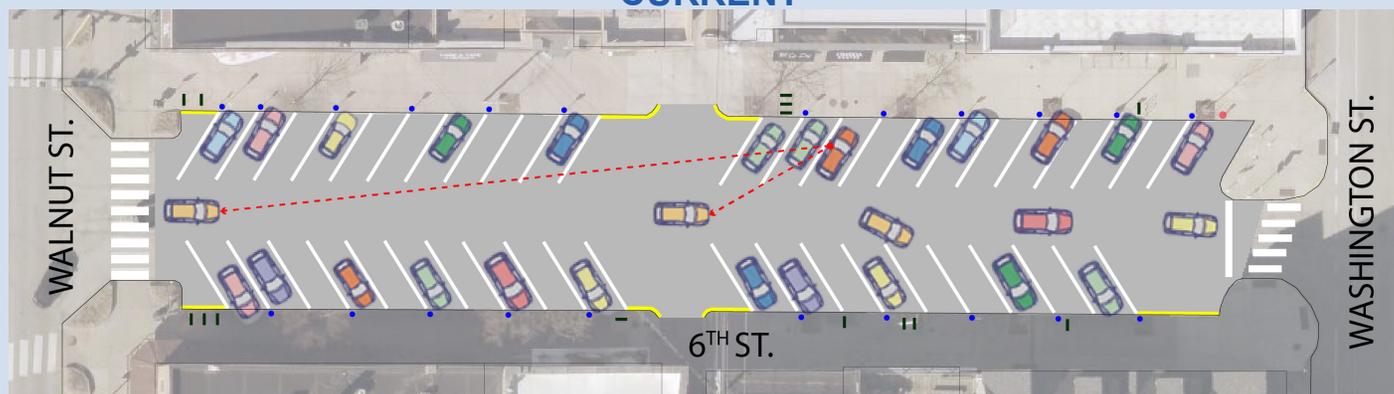
Parking Modification Back-in, Angle Parking on 6th Street

The City of Bloomington is implementing a parking modification to help eliminate crashes on 6th Street due to unsafe backing from front-in angle parking. A resurfacing project, beginning on **Tuesday, November 26, 2024**, will allow for line striping of back-in, angle parking on both sides of 6th Street between Walnut and Washington streets. This section of 6th Street is already a one-way, eastbound street, which will allow for a smooth transition into back-in angle parking.

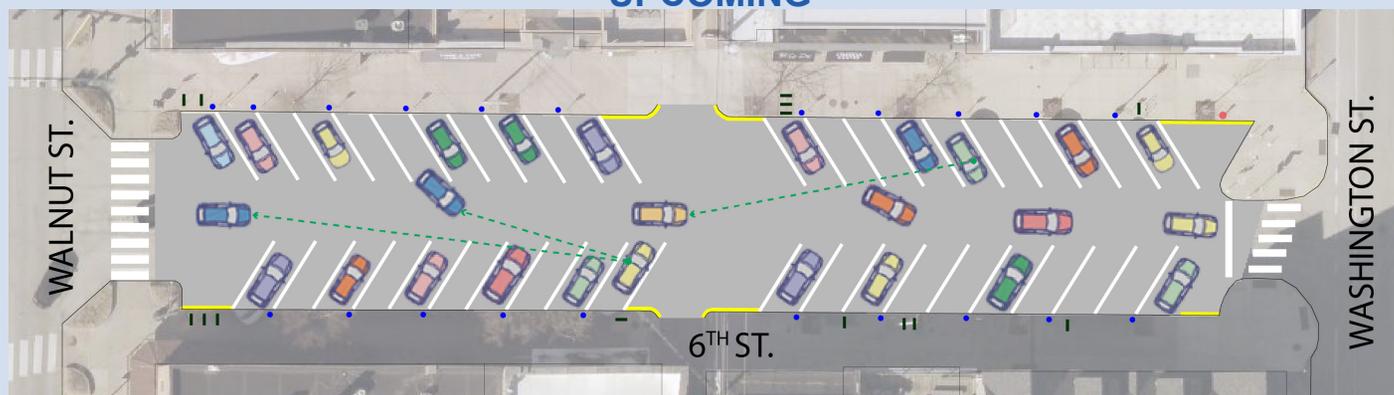
What's changing?

- 1) Parking stall lines will change direction, and yellow paint on curbs will be removed to accommodate new parking stalls.
- 2) Meter locations will be moved to align with the new parking stall lines.
- 3) Drivers will drive forward, passing the parking stall to then back in slowly in a similar manner to parallel parking.
- 4) Drivers will have better visibility when driving out of a parking stall, as shown by the dashed lines.

CURRENT



UPCOMING



Parking Modification Back-in, Angle Parking on 6th Street - FAQs

How do I back in or reverse park?



What is the purpose of the parking modification?

Between 2018 and 2022 there were eight crashes identified as “backing crashes” with the primary factor being “unsafe backing” on 6th Street between Walnut and Washington streets. This is the most commonly occurring crash type in this section of 6th Street. Replacing front-in, angle parking with back-in, angle parking can improve the safety on the street for all users.

City staff will monitor traffic flows, maintenance issues, parking guideline compliance, and overall operation of the site.

I am a business owner. How will this affect my business?

The City frequently hears from downtown businesses about the importance of parking in the area and while this parking modification will not increase the number of parking spaces, it will not reduce the number of parking spaces either.

However, if the change is successful, then areas with parallel parking that could be changed to back-in, angle parking could be implemented to add more parking spaces.

Won't this cause traffic to backup on Walnut Street?

While unlikely, queuing could occur on 6th Street and that would prevent drivers from turning onto 6th from Walnut Street for a short duration of time. The same thing happens currently when a vehicle is trying to back out of a parking space. The multiple vehicle travel lanes on Walnut Street can accommodate infrequent occurrences of traffic backed up onto 6th Street if needed.

What happens if I park my vehicle incorrectly in the new back-in, angle parking stalls?

The new back-in, angle parking stalls require vehicles to back in or reverse park. If a vehicle parks incorrectly, a penalty notice will be issued in the amount of \$30.00 for parking improperly.

Why does it help that 6th Street is already a one-way street with angle parking in this section of the street?

Back-in, angle parking can allow for additional on-street parking spots, as compared to parallel parking, but requires more room for the vehicle at an angle as well as more room to maneuver in and out of the parking space. With back-in, angle parking, slightly less space is needed than front-in angle parking, which means this is an ideal location for this type of parking modification because there is already angle parking and there is

only one travel lane in this section so there is more than enough space for vehicles to maneuver in and out of the parking spaces.

What will happen to the entrance to eastbound 6th Street from Walnut Street?

The entrance to 6th Street will not change at this time and this parking modification does not entail any curb work.

Why is this happening now?

Back-in parking is an emerging best practice that is being proposed in many U.S. Cities. According to the Institute of Transportation Engineers (Traffic Engineering Handbook 7th Edition) back-in, angle parking is safer for all users, because the driver has visibility of street traffic far sooner, particularly if parked adjacent to an SUV. Backing in also makes it safer for people accessing the trunk or cargo area of their vehicle and the orientation of open car doors helps to direct children onto the sidewalk instead of into the street when exiting the vehicle.

How can I provide feedback on the new angled parking?

Please contact us at planning@bloomington.in.gov or 812-349-3423.

Be sure to scan the QR code on the right to fill out a survey and provide feedback once the back-in angle parking has been installed.

