



# INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council  
CC: Jade Riley, Adam Park, Michael Zuzel, Alison Tate, Josh Leonard, Tyler Johnson  
FROM: Craig Croner & Jamie Heinzerling  
DATE: June 27, 2013  
SUBJECT: Parking Rate Structure Ordinance; Extended Hours of Enforcement Pilot

## **Background**

Since 2012, the City has piloted new parking meter technology, collected citizen feedback, and procured approximately 200 single-space, sensor-enabled parking meters. Installation of these meters began in mid-June 2013, primarily around Boise City Hall, on 8<sup>th</sup> Street (between Jefferson and Main), and in BODO.

The City has been developing a strategic parking plan to implement industry best practices, and is now proposing that the City Council adjust the parking meter rate structure and extend the hours during which parking meter violations are enforced. The goal of these recommendations is to maximize parking availability downtown to enhance economic development. The City's goals would be accomplished by pushing long term parking vehicles to garages and flat lots, while maintaining the availability of short term on-street (metered) parking. In June, the City conducted stakeholder meetings with downtown businesses specifically for the purpose of gaining feedback on the proposed extended enforcement hours and increased parking meter rates. Feedback from individual business owners was mixed, but was far more positive upon understanding that the proposed extended enforcement hours would likely be initially implemented as a time-limited pilot project. The Downtown Boise Association (DBA) supports both proposals.

To accomplish the City's goals in the area of downtown parking management, staff recommends several changes to the existing Parking Meter and Parking chapters of the Boise City Code.

## **Proposed Boise City Code Changes**

### **Ordinance Change** – Chapter 10-17 “Parking Meters”

Repeal and re-enact Parking Meter chapter of Boise City Code, Chapter 10-17. This ordinance change requires three readings and a vote of the Boise City Council. If the ordinance includes the increased parking meter rates proposed by staff, Idaho Code § 63-1311A requires public notice and a public hearing before the City Council's vote. Proposed code changes include:

- § Addition of a definition for “Purchased Time.”
- § Addition of a “Violations” section, which consolidates violation provisions from elsewhere in the chapter for ease of reference.
- § Addition of a “Severability” section.
- § Codification of parking meter rates and the maximum parking duration, and memorializing the “first 20 minutes free” in code.
- § Move all references to permit fees to the City Clerk’s Licensing Fee Schedule (deleted from the chapter by this ordinance, and added to the City Clerk’s Licensing Fee Schedule by a contemporaneous resolution).
- § Move Section 10-17-11 (entitled “Parking in Basement of City Hall and the Attached City Hall Parking Garage”) to Chapter 10-11 (entitled “Parking”), which is a far more logical location than its current place, the “Parking Meters” chapter, since no parking meters are located within City Hall parking areas (under City Hall Building 2, and the attached parking garage).
- § Amend the deadline for on-time payment of a parking violation and change the timeline for issuing a late fee notice to match current practices.
- § Increase parking meter fees:
  - \$1.50 for the first hour (which can be broken down as 10 minutes for \$0.25, 4 minutes for \$0.10, and 2 minutes for \$0.05.)
  - \$3.00 for the second hour (which can be broken down as 5 minutes for \$0.25, 2 minutes for \$0.10, and 1 minute for \$0.05.)

Note: Current technology allows the following hourly price points, each of which, when broken down into \$0.25 (quarter), \$0.10 (dime), and \$0.05 (nickel) is evenly divisible into 60 minutes: \$1.00, \$1.50, \$2.00 and \$3.00.

To maintain a rate higher than the parking garages, which pushes long term parking vehicles to the cheaper hourly rates of the parking garages, staff recommends a second hour rate of \$3.00.

Ordinance Change – Chapter 10-11 “Parking”

This ordinance change requires three readings and a vote of the Boise City Council. No public hearing is necessary, as no fees are added or increased in excess of 5% of current fees. Proposed changes include:

- § Relocates existing section 10-17-11 (entitled “Parking in Basement of City Hall and the Attached City Hall Parking Garage”) from the “Parking Meters” chapter into the chapter broadly titled “Parking.”

Ordinance Change – Section 10-11-16(B)(1)(a)(2), the Parking Fine table.

This ordinance change requires three readings and a vote of the Boise City Council. Changes include:

- § Inserts a new line to add a missing fine to the Parking Fine table in Boise City Code § 10-11-16(B)(1)(a)(2). The fine is for a violation of the “Stop, stand, or park a vehicle on the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street” (“double parking”) prohibition. After conducting a review of the fines for violations of similar

safety-based parking provisions, staff recommends a fine of \$40 (which matches such other violations).

### **Extended Hours of Enforcement Pilot**

Staff recommends a pilot program that extends the hours of parking enforcement to increase available short term on-street parking, and to push long term parking to garages and surface lots. Many businesses expressed support of this due to significant parking congestion during non-enforcement (evening and weekend) hours. DBA supports the extension of parking enforcement hours.

The recommended geographical area of the pilot program is: Myrtle to Jefferson, and 10<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> Streets.

The recommended hours of enforcement are: Monday thru Saturday, 8 am – 8 pm. (Current hours of enforcement are Monday thru Friday, 8 am – 6 pm.)

Staff recommends a pilot program of at least 6 months, and preferably 1 year in duration. During the pilot program, staff will ascertain program sustainability by gathering public comment and data from the new parking meter technology.

Please contact staff with any questions or concerns, and to provide direction on how to proceed with the recommendations.