



**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER  
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

**00-007**

**SYNOPSIS -**

**AGENDA:**

JANUARY 3, 2000

The following traffic regulation changes have been reviewed by staff and are recommended for approval:

**SUBJECT:**

TRAFFIC  
REGULATION  
CHANGES

- 1. Downtown Parking Meter Adjustments
- 2. Two-Sided Parking Restriction--Valdez Drive from 46th Street to 48th Street.
- 3. Two-Sided Parking Restriction--44th Street from Harwood Drive to Pleasant Street.
- 4. Parking Restriction--North Side of Mondamin Avenue West of 21st Street to the Dead End.
- 5. Corner Clearance Parking Restriction--North Side of Easton Boulevard West of Searle Street.
- 6. Commercial Loading Zone Installation--East Side of East 6th Street North of East Walnut Street.

**TYPE:**

RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**SUBMITTED BY:**

FLOYD BENTZ, P.E.  
CITY ENGINEER

**FISCAL IMPACT -**

Minor costs for signing and meter changes, to be paid from Traffic and Transportation Division operating budget.

**RECOMMENDATION -**

**Receive, file and refer to Legal Department for proper legislation.**

**BACKGROUND -**

1. During the past few months, the Traffic and Transportation Division has installed approximately 370 new parking meters in the downtown area. In working with the adjacent businesses during the installation, several adjustments in meter locations and related parking restrictions were made to better meet the needs of the businesses. Several minor ordinance changes are necessary to implement these adjusted meter installations and parking restrictions. At their December 14, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee recommended approval of these changes.

### **FREE-SPIN PARKING METERS**

One of these changes was the installation of a new type of electronic parking meter, called a "free-spin" parking meter. These new "free-spin" parking meters have already been installed at several locations within the Central Business District. The purpose of the "free-spin" meters is to promote retail businesses and enhance customer service by offering limited free parking (up to fifteen minutes) close to retail establishments that, because of the nature of their business, generate heavy short-term retail traffic. The initial test installation of one "free spin" meter adjacent to the ticket office for the Barnstormers on 7th Street was so successful that additional "free spin" parking meters were purchased for additional locations. Currently, Joseph's Jewelers, The Barnstormer's Ticket Office, Boesen the Florist, Kinko's Copies, and The Des Moines Register all have one or two "free-spin" meters installed adjacent to their place of business. Since these meters allow a maximum time of thirty minutes parking (fifteen minutes free, plus an additional fifteen minutes upon insertion of coins), this new time limit for parking meters must be added to the section of the Municipal Code dealing with parking meter rates. The recommendation below will implement the ordinance change to reflect the addition of "free spin" parking meters in the downtown area.

### **SEC. 27-642. PARKING METER RATES.**

District No. I - forty cents per hour, except ten hour meters, twenty cents per hour; electronic meters installed after April 1, 1999, seventy-five cents per hour; electronic "free spin" parking meters, thirty minute limit, first fifteen minutes free, additional fifteen minutes at a rate of seventy-five cents per

hour.

### **RUSH HOUR RESTRICTIONS**

During the installation of the new parking meters within the downtown area, it was discovered that because of the staggered start and release times of several major employers, several of the existing 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. rush hour parking restrictions did not provide adequate clearance times. Because of this, we have added two additional rush hour restriction times that would be used adjacent to employers that use staggered release and start times. These new parking restriction times are; No Parking from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and No Parking from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

### **SEC. 27-643. HOURS METERS TO OPERATE.**

Except on Saturdays, Sundays and the following legal holidays: New Year's Day, January first; Memorial Day, the last Monday in May; Independence Day, July fourth; Labor Day, the first Monday in September; Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November and Christmas Day, December twenty-fifth; parking meters in all parking meter districts established by this subchapter shall be operated every day between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and to 6:00 P.M., provided, however, that on those streets where parking is prohibited between the hours of 7:00 A.M. ~~and to~~ 9:00 A.M. the parking meters on said streets shall be operated every day between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and to 6:00 P.M. On those streets where parking is prohibited between the hours of 4:00 P.M. and to 6:00 P.M., the parking meters on said streets shall be operated every day between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and to 4:00 P.M. On those streets where parking is prohibited between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and to 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. and to 6:00 P.M. the parking meters on said streets shall be operated every day between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and to 4:00 P.M. On those streets where parking is prohibited between the hours of 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. the parking meters on said streets shall be operated every day between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. On those streets where parking is prohibited between the hours of 6:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. the parking meters on said streets shall be operated every day between the hours of 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

## **DEFINITION OF ON-STREET PARKING SPACES**

The following section of the Municipal Code seems to indicate that the City of Des Moines physically marks the limits of all parking spaces directly on the city streets. To avoid this interpretation by the public or enforcement personnel, the following ordinance change is recommended to more clearly define the limits of on-street parking spaces, where parking meters are installed and where parking spaces are controlled by traffic control signing only. This will assist parking enforcement officers and the public in defining the limits of all parking spaces, whether controlled by a parking meter or by signing.

### **SEC. 27-645. VEHICLES TO BE PARKED WHOLLY WITHIN MARKED LINES DESIGNATED SPACE.**

No person shall park any vehicle across any line or marking ~~of~~ or area designated as a parking meter space or in such position that the vehicle shall not be entirely within the area designated as a parking space by lines ~~of~~ , markings, traffic control signing or the placement of one or more parking meter posts adjacent to the parking space which indicates the limits of a designated parking space.

## **ADDITIONAL PARKING METERS**

As a result of the demolition of the 7th and Mulberry Street Parking Garage, the 8th and Mulberry Parking Garage was converted to all monthly parking. In order to provide additional transient parking, twenty parking meters were installed in the 8th and Mulberry surface lot to provide off-street, short-term parking spaces. The following addition to the Municipal Code is necessary to implement metered parking in this lot.

### **SEC. 27-663.01. MULBERRY STREET AND EIGHTH STREET MUNICIPAL PARKING LOT.**

(a) The City Traffic Engineer is hereby authorized and directed to install parking meters in the following described municipally-owned parking lot:

A tract of land known as Lots 3 & 4, Block 10, H.M. Hoxies Addition; in the City of Des Moines, Iowa, for the purpose of, and in such numbers, and at such places as may be necessary to

the regulation, control and inspection of the parking of vehicles therein, subject to the provisions of subchapter 22 of this chapter, regulating parking meters.

(b) When installed, such parking meters shall be in operation between the hours of 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Mondays through Fridays, and shall be so adjusted as to show legal parking at a rate of \$.40 per hour at two hour meters.

(c) Reserved monthly parking 8:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M., \$45.00.

### **REMOVAL OF PARKING METERS**

At the request of the Des Moines Civic Center, four parking meters installed adjacent to the Civic Center as a part of the recent downtown parking meter installation program, on the east side of Third Street, south of Locust Street, have been removed. The following recommended ordinance changes are necessary to remove metered parking and return to No Parking Any Time.

#### **SEC. 27-2774.01. THIRD STREET--WALNUT STREET TO LOCUST.**

~~Third Street, on the east side, from a point 200 feet north of Walnut Street to Locust Street, two hour meters, 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.~~

#### **SEC. 27-1582. THIRD STREET--WALNUT STREET TO LOCUST STREET.**

~~Third Street, on the east side, from a point 200 feet north of Walnut Street to Locust Street, no parking 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. and 6:00 P.M~~ anytime.

2. Staff received a neighborhood petition from the residents of Valdez Drive from 46th Street to 48th Street, asking that parking be prohibited on the north side of their street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., school days. Parking is already prohibited on the south side of the street. The petition is signed by 19 of the 23 affected residences, or 83 percent in favor of the parking restriction. Concern was expressed over students from Hoover High School parking along Valdez Drive and creating difficulties for the residents of the street.

Because of the proximity to Hoover High School, staff sent a

letter to its principal notifying them of this request. At their December 14, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with staff's recommendation that parking be prohibited on the north side of Valdez Drive from 46th Street to 48th Street, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., school days. The following ordinance change is necessary to allow this parking restriction to be placed into effect:

**SEC. 27-2666. VALDEZ DRIVE--THIRTIETH STREET TO FIFTY-FOURTH STREET.**

Valdez Drive, on the north side, from 46th Street to a point 100 feet east of 48th Street, no parking 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., school days.

3. Staff received a neighborhood petition from the residents of 44th Street, asking that parking be prohibited between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., school days, on the west side of 44th Street between Harwood Drive and Pleasant Street. Parking is currently prohibited on the east side of the street. Concern was expressed over students from Roosevelt High School parking in this area and causing difficulties for the people living on the street. The petition was signed by eight of the nine residences, or 89 percent in favor of the parking restriction.

Based on the consensus of the neighborhood, staff recommends that the requested parking restriction be approved. Because of the proximity of Roosevelt High School, its principal was also notified of this request. At their December 14, 1999 meeting, the Traffic Safety Committee concurred with staff's recommendation that parking be prohibited between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., school days, on the west side of 44th Street from Harwood Drive to Pleasant Street. The following ordinance change is necessary to allow this parking restriction to be placed into effect:

**SEC. 27-1901. FORTY-FOURTH STREET--DEAD END SOUTH OF GRAND AVENUE TO OVID AVENUE.**

Forty-fourth Street, on the west side, from Harwood Drive to Pleasant Street, no parking 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., school days.

4. The Traffic and Transportation staff received a request from Mrs. Vietta Fischer, 2115 Mondamin Avenue, asking that

parking be prohibited on the north side of Mondamin Avenue in front of her house, which is at the end of a dead-end street west of 21st Street. She indicated that it is very difficult for vehicles to exit from her driveway when cars are parked in this area. Staff reviewed the request and concurs that a 50-foot parking restriction at the end of this street will alleviate this difficulty. The following ordinance is necessary to allow this parking restriction to be placed into effect:

**SEC. 27-2467. MONDAMIN AVENUE--THIRTEENTH STREET TO THIRTY-THIRD STREET.**

Mondamin Avenue, on the north side, from a point 35 feet west of Twenty-first Street west to the dead end, no parking any time.

5. The Traffic and Transportation Division received a request from a resident regarding visibility and turning difficulties due to parked vehicles on Easton Boulevard at the intersection of Searle Street. In order to provide adequate visibility for vehicles at this intersection, staff recommends that a 45-foot corner clearance no parking zone be established on the north side of Easton Boulevard west of Searle Street. The following revisions to the Municipal Code are necessary to effect this change:

**SEC. 27-2136. EASTON BOULEVARD--EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET TO EAST TWENTY-NINTH STREET.**

Easton Boulevard, on the north side, from Searle Street to a point 45 feet west thereof, no parking any time.

6. At the request of Julie Reynolds and Valerie Findley, Directors of Parent Training and Information Center of Iowa, 321 East 6th Street, the Traffic and Transportation Division investigated the possibility of installing a loading zone adjacent to this business. Because of the demolition of the building on the southeast corner of East 6th Street and East Locust Street, the loading zone in that location is no longer accessible and will be adjacent to a vacant lot once the construction fencing is removed. The requested ordinance change eliminates the old loading zone adjacent to the demolition site and moves the loading zone further south, adjacent to the existing businesses at 321 and 319 East 6th Street. This ordinance change requires

the elimination of one parking metered space, but will allow the installation of one parking meter in place of the removed loading zone further north on the same side of the street.

**SEC. 27-1629. EAST SIXTH STREET--EAST WALNUT STREET TO EAST LOCUST STREET.**

East Sixth Street, on the east side, from a point 130 feet north of East Walnut Street to a point 25 feet north thereof, commercial loading zone.

~~East Sixth Street, on the east side, from a point 265 feet north of East Walnut Street to a point 25 feet north thereof, commercial loading zone.~~

**SEC. 27-2940. EAST SIXTH STREET--EAST WALNUT STREET TO EAST LOCUST STREET.**

East Sixth Street, on the east side, from a point 130 feet north of East Locust Street to a point 265 155 feet north of East Walnut Street, four hour meters, 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

~~East Sixth Street, on the east side, from a point 290 feet north of East Walnut Street to a point 50 feet south of East Locust Street, four hour meters, 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.~~