



AGENDA SUMMARY EUREKA CITY COUNCIL

TITLE: Parking Improvements 2023- Amendment to the Eureka Municipal Code Chapters 70 and 72 of the Traffic Code

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

PREPARED BY: Scott Ellsmore, Transportation Project Manager

PRESENTED FOR: Action Information only Discussion

RECOMMENDATION

1. Waive full reading, read by title only and introduce Bill No. 1028-C.S., an ordinance of the City of Eureka amending the Eureka Municipal Code Title 7, Chapters 70 and 72 pertaining to parking; and,
2. Approve improvements to parking in the Old Town/Downtown District; and,

FISCAL IMPACT

No Fiscal Impact Included in Budget Additional Appropriation

COUNCIL GOALS/STRATEGIC VISION

- Financially stable, effectively run City

DISCUSSION

The goal of implementing changes to parking in the Old Town/Downtown District is to better manage the City's existing parking resources and improve utilization and access to parking throughout the district. In June of 2022 the City of Eureka completed a parking study and from that study emerged a number of recommendations for improvements to existing parking in the Downtown/Old Town areas. Suggestions for improvements included: 1) parking lot wayfinding and signage improvements, 2) website updates and outreach of existing parking resources, 3) modification of the existing time limit zones including the reduction of 2-hour time limit zones and the establishment of mid-range time limit zones (4-hour), 4) replacement of existing parking meters, 5) implementation of a permit parking pilot program for employees in the area and 6) explore longer-term upgrades such as striping/resurfacing/lighting improvements and the creation of a parking lot shuttle program.

In addition to improvements listed above, the City is proposing to implement pay-to-park parking in four downtown core lots, amend parking time limits to include Saturdays and to raise existing parking meter rates. To achieve these goals staff is proposing changes

to the Eureka Municipal Code (EMC) to allow for these improvements. Attached is an ordinance to amend the muni code to allow for the previously stated changes.

Overview of Changes to the EMC

A number of these changes are minor such as replacing the term “Parking Place Commission” with “Transportation Safety Commission” as the Parking Place Commission was previously incorporated into the Transportation Safety Commission. Other changes include amending the hours of operation for parking restrictions to any time between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on any day except Sundays and holidays, creating a 4-hour parking time limit, adopting changes to parking meter zones via a resolution and not by ordinance, and amending the code to allow the City Manager or Director of Public Works to modify parking meter zones and rates within a range as set by Council. These changes to the EMC will better streamline parking regulations and allow for a more responsive approach to address future changes to parking.

At the May 9th Transportation Safety Commission (TSC) meeting, the TSC voted unanimously to forward a recommendation to support changes to the parking in the Downtown/Old Town district to the City Council.

Proposed Changes to Parking in the Old Town/Downtown District

Staff is proposing the following improvements to parking in the Downtown/Old Town areas

- Amend parking time limits per adoption of the attached Parking Time Limits Map
- Designate the public lots at the southwest side of 3rd and E Streets, northeast side of 3rd and E Streets, southeast side of 1st and E Streets and southeast side of 2nd and H Streets as pay-to-park lots
- Amend the current parking fee rate to \$0.50 per hour
- Amend parking time limits to include Saturdays
- Implement an employee permit parking pilot program

STAFF’S RECOMMENDATION

Staff is recommending that the Council adopt an ordinance amending the EMC, approve improvements to parking in the Old Town/Downtown District and adopt the Parking Time Limits Map.

SUGGESTED MOTION

“I move the City Council waive full reading, read by title only and introduce Bill No. 1028-C.S. an Ordinance of the City of Eureka amending the Eureka Municipal Code Chapters 70 and 72, approve improvements to parking in the Old Town/Downtown District and adopt the Parking Time Limits Map.”

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

- City Attorney
- City Clerk/Information Services
- Development Services
- Finance
- Fire
- Parks and Recreation

- Personnel
- Police
- Public Works

ATTACHMENTS: Staff Report and Ordinance