

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:
AGENDA ITEM NO.:

November 5, 2007
4.3 (a)

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
Robert Wells
THROUGH: ROBERT G. WELLS, CITY MANAGER

FROM: TONY MOUNTS, DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
Tony Mounts

SUBJECT: PARKING CITATIONS

ISSUE:

Response to Council's question concerning length of time for payment of parking citations.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. Information only.

BACKGROUND

On August 20, 2007, the City Council adopted a motion directing staff to research and report to the DID Board (Go Downtown Salem!) and City Council on how many days a person who receives a parking citation has to pay the citation and how these rules compare to other Oregon jurisdictions. The Council requested that the DID Board recommend any changes they believe should be made.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

Parking Services staff contacted ten Oregon cities to request the following information:

1. Does the bail amount of your parking citations increase after a specific number of days? If so, after how many days? Are these work days or calendar days? How much does it escalate?
2. Is there more than one escalation point? If so, at what number of days? How much does the bail increase?
3. Is this information included on the citation?

The information obtained is summarized in the following table.

Findings

1. Seven of the ten jurisdictions contacted escalate the bail on their parking citations at least once.
2. All jurisdictions that escalate bail do so after a specific number of **calendar** days.
3. The number of days after a citation is issued before bail escalates ranges from the 8th day to the 31st day, with the most frequent being the 11th day after a citation (5 of 7 cities). The City of Salem escalates on the 15th day and again on the 31st day if the citation is still unpaid.
4. Five of the 10 cities include information about the escalation points on the citation. The City of Salem includes this information on parking citations.

Recommendation:

The City of Salem's practices are reasonably similar to those of the surveyed jurisdictions. Staff recommends maintaining current practice.

The Board of Directors of Go Downtown Salem! considered the issue at their meeting on September 20, 2007 and the Downtown Advisory Board discussed it at their September 27, 2007 meeting. Both groups agreed unanimously with the staff recommendation.

Summary: Survey of Parking Fine Escalation

9/20/2007

City	Initial Escalation	Secondary Escalation	Escalation Amount	Info Included on Citation?
Ashland	11th day after citation	32nd day after citation	\$10 after 10 days, \$30 after 31 days, \$50 after 54 days	Yes
Beaverton	8th calendar day (letter sent, no escalation)	18th calendar day (10 days after letter sent)	May be doubled	No
Bend	11th day after citation	None	Graduated escalation	No
Corvallis	11th day after citation	21st day after citation	\$5 at each stage on base parking ticket	Yes
Eugene	31st day after citation	None	Double	Yes
Gresham	N/A	N/A	None	No
Hillsboro	11th day after citation	None	Double	Yes
Keizer	None	N/A	None	No
Medford	11th day after citation	None	\$10	Yes
Salem	15th day after citation	31st day after citation	\$10 after 14 days, \$20 after 30 days	Yes
Springfield	N/A	N/A	None	N/A