Transportation Committee - Board of Representatives



Steven Kolenberg, Chair

Bradley Michelson, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2019
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Republican Caucus Room, 4th Floor, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard

The Transportation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Kolenberg, Vice Chair Michelson and Committee Member Reps. Di Costanzo, Giordano, Moore and Patterson. Absent or excused were Reps. Pendell, Spadaccini and Wallace. Also present were Reps. Lion, Roqueta and Zelinsky; Jim Travers, Frank Petise and Luke Buttenwieser, Transportation, Traffic and Parking Bureau; Jill Barrett, Lou Eveno, Jonathan Wu and Carolyn Foster, CT DOT Exit 9 Project; and Michael Moore, DSSD.

Chair Kolenberg called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Invitee(s) or Designee(s)
5. <u>T30.034</u>	REVIEW; Status update on the E. Main Street/ I-95 (Exit 9) Bridge Replacement Project. 03/05/19 – Submitted by Rep. Roqueta	Report Made

A motion to take up Item 5 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Kolenberg, Michelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano and Patterson in favor).

Mr. Eveno reviewed the attached <u>presentation</u> with the Committee. The Transportation Bureau will do a walk through prior to the project to confirm the safety of the pedestrian detour. The State is pushing to have the Courtland Avenue project completed prior to the detour. The attached <u>handout</u> detailing the detour plan was distributed to the Committee.

 <u>T30.028</u> RESOLUTION and approval of public hearing; Confirming and Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for On-Street Parking Meters.
<u>12/05/18</u> – Submitted by Bureau Chief Travers
<u>12/20/18</u> – Approved by Committee, as amended, 7-0-1
<u>01/07/19</u> – Held by Full Board
<u>01/14/19</u> – Moved to Pending
<u>02/21/19</u> – Held by Committee 6-0-0

Mr. Travers stated that his department has been meeting with the downtown merchants and the DSSD to come up with compromises on the proposed fees, as set forth on the attached <u>executive summary</u>. The recommendation is to reduce the increase for on-street meters from \$1.50 to \$1.25 and extending parking times until 8 pm. Mr. Moore stated that the meter bags were not focused on by the DSSD or downtown merchants.

The rates and hours were last increased in 2004. Currently, the bags are only 24/7.

One of the main drivers of this increase is to keep the parking fund solvent. The City does not bond for these funds. Two garages need \$15 million of repairs. In addition, the new meters take credit cards, so there is a processing fee. The City would be losing money if the rate were not increased.

A motion to amend the proposed resolution to change \$1.50 to \$1.25 and to end enforcement hours for meters at 8:00 p.m. was made, second and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Kolenberg, Michelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano and Patterson in favor).

A motion to approve the resolution, as amended, for public hearing, was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Kolenberg, Michelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano and Patterson in favor).

2. <u>T30.029</u> RESOLUTION and approval of public hearing; Confirming and Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for City-Owned Garages and Parking Lots (Excluding Commuter Lots).
12/05/18 – Submitted by Bureau Chief Travers
12/20/18 – Approved by Committee 7-0-0
01/07/19 – Held by Full Board
01/14/19 – Moved to Pending
02/21/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0

Rep. Kolenberg left the room for this discussion. Mr. Travers explained that the recommendation is to reduce the \$1.25/hour rate to \$1.00/hour keeps the garage rate lower than on-street parking. Increasing the metered parking areas and enforcement hours for those meters will help make up the difference. Businesses dependent upon turnover of spaces want meters. This will also get more people to park in the garages.

A motion to amend the proposed resolution to change \$1.25 to \$1.00 was made, second and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Michelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Moore and Patterson in favor).

A motion to approve the resolution, as amended, for public hearing, was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Michelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Moore and Patterson in favor).

3. <u>T30.030</u>	RESOLUTION and approval of public hearing; Confirming and Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for City- Owned Commuter Parking Lots. 12/05/18 – Submitted by Bureau Chief Travers 12/20/18 – Approved by Committee, as amended, 7-1-0	Approved, as amended, 5-0-0
	01/07/19 – Held by Full Board 01/14/19 – Moved to Pending 02/21/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0	

Mr. Travers said that based upon the lists he has gotten, there are 198 permit holder for these lots and 228 people on the waiting list. Few are from outside Stamford. Users of the commuter lots are frustrated by the empty spaces

These fees were last changed in 1988. It would be consistent with lots up and down the line to allow transients to use the permitted spaces after 10:00 a.m.

Norwalk charges \$12/day, Greenwich and New Canaan charge \$5/day and Darien charges \$4/day.

A motion to amend the proposed resolution to change \$6.00 per day to \$5.00 per day was made, second and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Kolenberg, Michelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano and Patterson in favor).

A motion to approve the resolution, as amended, for public hearing, was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-0-0 (Reps. Kolenberg, Michelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano and Patterson in favor).

4. T30.033 REVIEW; Comprehensive Review of Parking Ticket **HELD** Appeal Process. 02/27/19 – Submitted by Rep. Kolenberg

Chair Kolenberg adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Steve Kolenberg, Chair

This meeting is on video.