



Transportation Committee - Board of Representatives

David Watkins, Chair

Mavina Moore, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, January 23, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Republican Caucus Room, 4th Floor, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard

The Transportation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Watkins, Vice Chair Moore and Committee Member Reps. Curtis, Di Costanzo, Michelson, Patterson, Pendell and Wallace. Absent or excused was Rep. Giordano. Also present were Reps. McMullen, Roqueta, Sherwood and Zelinsky; and Jim Travers, Garrett Bolella, Frank Petise and Luke Bittenwieser from Transportation, Traffic and Parking.

Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. T30.045	RESOLUTION <u>and approval of public hearing</u> ; Confirming and Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for On-Street Parking. 01/08/20 – Submitted by Reps. Sherwood and Roqueta	Held 6-2-0
2. T30.046	RESOLUTION <u>and approval of public hearing</u> ; Confirming and Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for City-Owned Garages and Lots (Excluding Commuter Parking). 01/08/20 – Submitted by Reps. Sherwood and Roqueta	Held 8-0-0
3. T30.047	RESOLUTION <u>and approval of public hearing</u> ; Confirming and Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for City-Owned Commuter Parking Lots. 01/08/20 – Submitted by Reps. Sherwood and Roqueta	Held 8-0-0

Committee members discussed Items 1 through 3 together with Mr. Travers. Items discussed and comments made included the following:

- The sales tax recently imposed by the State can be applied with no need for Board approval
- Reps. Sherwood and Roqueta are proposing that the fees increased last year by the Board be reduced to include the sales tax
- Would Board members have increased the meter parking from \$1.00 to \$1.25 if they had known the sales tax was going to be imposed
- The City had a surplus last year, so could absorb this loss of parking revenue
- Not all of the parking rates went up last year, so the tax would not be included in those fees; only in those increased in 2019
- Other municipalities are figuring out how to charge this tax; some have already imposed the increase, others are going to do it at the beginning of the fiscal year

- The revenue lost from the reductions would be borne by all taxpayers, while the increase is only borne by those who use the parking
- The garages need \$18 million worth of repairs and parking revenue goes into the parking fund
- An \$800,000 electrical upgrade was just completed at the Bell Street garage, and the 1st level and stairwells have been painted; residents will be more comfortable using the garage
- The Board of Representatives made the increase decision based on the needs of the City
- A reduction will hurt the ability of the TT&P Bureau to do what they expected
- The TT&P Department has already put in their budget for this coming fiscal year
- The City's surplus is a way to work on the City's infrastructure needs
- This is not something constituents are looking for
- The correct response is to object to the State tax
- The current proposal is to give 56 minutes per \$1.25 rather than increase the amount to be put into the meter
- There would still be money going into the parking fund
- It had been many years since there had been an increase in the parking fees
- It will be kludgy to apply this to some of the rates and not others; the decision needs to be made as to all rates
- The bulk of the surplus will be going toward street repair
- To make it less confusing, put a flat rate amount in the resolutions; e.g. \$1.17 instead of \$1.25
- The original request was for \$1.50 per hour, which was originally approved by the Committee
- The City needs to spend funds on asset management; nobody wants to pay taxes, but the City needs to upgrade its assets
- Reducing the on-street meter cost would reduce revenue by \$53,987
- Constituents won't see enough of an impact from this reduction; but it will be significant for the TT&P Bureau
- If Representatives had known about this, they might have increased other parking fees in order to make up for the shortfall
- Residents will be disadvantaged by less work being done in the garages

A motion to hold Item No. 1 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-2-0 (Reps. Moore, Di Costanzo, Michelson, Patterson, Pendell and Wallace in favor; Reps. Watkins and Curtis opposed.)

A motion to hold Item No. 2 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Watkins, Moore, Reps. Curtis, Di Costanzo, Michelson, Patterson, Pendell and Wallace in favor).

A motion to hold Item No. 3 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Watkins, Moore, Reps. Curtis, Di Costanzo, Michelson, Patterson, Pendell and Wallace in favor).

4. [T30.044](#) REVIEW; Transportation Projects City-Wide Expected to Report Made Disrupt Traffic in 2020.
01/08/20 – Submitted by Jim Travers

Committee members reviewed the [attached presentation](#) with the invited guests.

Chair Watkins adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David Watkins, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).