



February 13th, 2021

City of Camas Parking Advisory Committee

Re: Parking Ticket Fee Structure Change Suggestion

Dear Parking Advisory Committee members,

As a parking spot in a Main Street town has incredible value and allows for continued commerce throughout the day, it is highly recommended that downtown parking spots are for customers only. If an employee or business owner parks in downtown spots all day, hundreds of dollars of potential commerce are lost each day—per each space! Since the current cost of a parking ticket is nominal, many of our downtown parking spots each day are being used by staff and owners willing to risk getting the occasional ticket.

The DCA would again like to propose the following idea that can help encourage employees and owners to park further outside of the core and leave parking spots open for their and their neighboring businesses' customers. It's a tiered approach which is welcoming to the first time visitor and gives extra cost to repeat offenders.

Because the city possesses the technology to tell if a car has received a ticket before, it allows for this type of suggested approach:

- **First offense** (exceeding parking time limit): Car receives a friendly reminder that we have free parking in downtown but that we do have time limits to maintain customer flow. No fee with this "ticket".
- **Second offense**: \$15 ticket
- **Third and subsequent offenses**: \$45-50 per ticket

This approach provides a friendly, welcoming reminder to first time visitors who may not know about parking limits yet and also makes it very clear to repeat offenders that spots are meant for customers.

Thank you for considering this recommendation. If assistance is needed for implementing first time ticket forgiveness, the DCA would be interested in collaborating with the City on this.

Sincerely,
Carrie Schulstad
Executive Director
Downtown Camas Association

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