

# Town of Upper Marlboro

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# **MEMORANDUM**

To: Board of Town Commissioners

From: Kyle Snyder, Town Administrator

Date: Tuesday July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Re: Town Traffic & Parking Legislation Review

#### Commissioners,

The Town of Upper Marlboro has a robust set of Ordinances and Resolution relating to traffic and parking within the Town limits, which should be reviewed and updated every 5 years or so or as conditions change. Before the Board for discussion are three pieces of legislation, the overarching Traffic & Parking Ordinance, and two Resolutions regulating parking meter fines and parking meter rates.

#### Traffic & Parking Ordinance

Staff are proposing minor updates and changes to this Ordinance, primarily to fully shift responsibility of parking & traffic duties over to the Police Department.

### Parking Meter Rates Resolution

Staff is proposing a new "off-peak" parking rate for the Town-owned on-street meters to help encourage visitors to come downtown and support local businesses. Currently, the Town's parking meters charge \$2.50 per hour 24/7 except Sundays and holidays (Gov Oden Bowie Dr is free after 5pm and on Saturday & Sunday due to the pond). This is the highest rate in the region, and while this makes sense while the courthouse is operating, the higher-than-average parking rate acts as a deterrent to potential visitors after hours when the courthouse is closed. A comparison chart of area on-street parking meter rates is included below.

The Board of Commissioners could choose to change the hours the parking fee is active, have a reduced rate, or leave it as is.

Parking meter rates were increased from \$0.75/per hour to \$2.50 in 2019 after the new parking meters were installed. A Saturday rate was added in 2016 of \$0.50/hour, but staff could not find any record of rates being set prior to 2016.

#### Parking Fines Resolution

Chief Burse is recommending increasing some of the parking fines based on comparisons of neighboring jurisdictions. The Town's parking fines were last updated in 2016, please refer to Resolution 2016-6 in the packet to see how the fines were increased.

## Potential Review Timeline:

Initial Discussion-July 12th Regular Work session

Introduction & Public Comment- July 28<sup>th</sup> Regular Town Meeting Board Discussion & Public Comment- August 9<sup>th</sup> Regular Work session Board Approval- August 23<sup>rd</sup> Regular Town Meeting

Below is a chart of parking meter rates from jurisdictions around the region, selection is limited as only certain areas outside of major cities in our area have on-street parking meters. The average hourly rate of all these jurisdictions is \$1.80 per hour. This chart was researched and complied by our summer intern Savannah Miller.

City/Town	Parking Meter Rates	Notes
City of College Park	\$0.75 per hour	Monday-Saturday 8am-10pm
		except holidays
City of Hyattsville	\$0.50 per hour	8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
City of Mt. Rainier	\$1.00 per hour	10am-11pm except Sundays and
		holidays
City of Annapolis	\$2.00 per hour	Six days a week 10am-7:30pm, on
		Sundays 12pm-7:30pm
City of Alexandria, VA	\$1.75 per hour	Monday-Saturday 8am-9pm
National Harbor (Prince	\$2.30 per hour	Monday-Saturday 7am-10pm.
George's County)	_	
Town of Upper Marlboro	\$2.50 per hour	Monday-Saturday 24/7
	_	Gov Oden Bowie Dr Free Sat & after 5pm M-F