



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Matthew R. Walsh, Director of Redevelopment, Downtown Services, and Special Projects

DATE: May 13, 2019

SUBJECT: Parking Ordinances for FY 2020 Budget Program Change Requests

Recommendation:

1. Accept the following report;
2. Set the attached ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances; Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, Article 18-3, Parking Meters for public hearing on June 6, 2019 in conjunction with the adoption of the FY 2020 City Budget.
3. Set the attached ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances; Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, by amending Article 18-1, Stopping, Standing, and Parking, Section 18-1-24, Parking — Law Enforcement Vehicles, Schedule XXI, on June 6, 2019 in conjunction with the adoption of the FY 2020 City Budget.

Background:

The City Council accepted the Strategic Parking Plan on December 18, 2017. Development of the Strategic Plan was a four year effort, which commenced in 2013, for the purposes of achieving the following goals:

1. Restoring the Parking Fund to financial solvency;
2. Supporting community economic development goals and initiatives;
3. Improving customer service and user friendliness; and,
4. Providing clean, safe, and well maintained parking facilities for the community.

Implementation of the Strategic Plan was designed to be a multi-faceted, multi-year effort comprised of a variety of operational changes and capital improvements.

The initial phase of operational recommendations was implemented on July 1, 2018 (FY 2019). These included, but were not limited to, new meter rates, days and hours of enforcement, meter time limits, changes certain citations, implementation of Phase I of meter expansion (South Main and Concord Street), as well as reforms associated with the management of reserved parking spaces (i.e. transition from a lease to permit system).

Implementation of the initial recommendations set forth in the Strategic Plan have helped the City make great progress towards fulfilling the community's goals for the parking system.

Discussion:

The Strategic Parking Plan recommended two phases of meter expansion. The purpose of these expansions was to 1) appropriately manage public parking near activity centers (Federal Court, Merrimack County Court, etc.), and 2) generate additional revenues to support additional capital investments in the parking infrastructure, including the City’s 3 public parking garages and 9 surface lots. The City’s FY 2020 – FY 2029 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) calls for nearly \$9 million of investments in parking infrastructure over the next decade. This figure excludes the \$5.5 million renovation of the School Street Parking Garage, which began in FY 2018.

Phase I of meter expansion was implemented in FY 2019. This Phase originally included 50 parking spaces on South Main Street, Concord Street, and Dixon Avenue. However, this was subsequently reduced to 43 spaces due to the elimination of on-street parking at Dixon Avenue as part of the Granite Center Redevelopment Project

Phase II of meter expansion focuses on approximately 258 parking spaces at the following locations. Law enforcement only parking along the Pleasant Street frontage of the Federal Building and Court must be repealed per the attached Ordinance in order to implement metering at that location.

Street	Location	Total Meters
Center	Union to North Spring	20
Chesley	Pleasant to Wall	9
Court	North State to North Main	15
Montgomery	North State to Court	33
North Main	Court to Pitman	9
North State	Center to Chapel	35
Pleasant	Spring to Merrimack	7
Pleasant	South to Spring (Federal Court Frontage)	26
South	Wall to Thompson	17
South Spring	Oak to Pleasant	5
South State	Wall to Thorndike	64
Wall	South to South State	18
Total		258

In addition to the 258 spaces above, the Parking Committee has also recommended installation of 80 parking meters on Storrs Street.

Of this total, 20 meters will be installed between Dixon Avenue and the rear entrance into the Holiday Inn to, in part, support expanded economic activity associated with the Granite Center Redevelopment project. No parking meters currently exist within this section of Storrs Street.

The remaining 60 meters will be installed south of Theatre Street. The goal of these meters is to encourage employees associated with the Smile Building to use their reserved parking spaces at their private surface lots, as well as the Storrs Street Parking Garage. Use of these on-street spaces by certain employees based in the Smile Building has been a chronic problem ever since

on-street parking was restored along this section of Storrs Street in March 2014. By metering these spaces, and thus encouraging Smile Building employees to use their reserved private spaces, the City will expand the general public's access to on-street parking in this location.

Revenues and expenditures associated with these additional meters are described in the following FY 2020 Budget Program Change Requests: #1134 and #1150 (Meter Expansion Phase II), #1135 and #1148 (Storrs Street meter expansion near Dixon Avenue), as well as #1136 and #1147 (Storrs Street meter expansion south of Theatre Street).

Please see the map below for more information regarding the specific location of these spaces.

