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FINANCE & RECORDS

MEMO

To: Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

From: Nancy A. Lueck, Finance Director

Date: December 12, 2017

Re: Review of 2nd Street Parking Time Limit and Re-Parking Restriction Change

Introduction and Background:

At the October 19, 2017 City Council meeting, Council passed a resolution changing parking restrictions on 2nd Street from "Free parking up to 3 hours once per day in each space" to "Free parking up to 2 hours once per day in each block". The purpose of this change was to increase the turnover of vehicles in on-street parking spaces on 2nd Street. The following timeline was used for implementation of the change:

Installation of Signs with new parking restrictions	Week of October 30 – November 3, 2017
Flyers distributed by Meter Attendants to all 2 nd Street businesses and placed on all vehicles on 2 nd Street	November 3, 2017
Warnings were given the first week	November 6 – 10, 2017
Beginning date for tickets to violators	November 13, 2017

Results to Date:

City Council requested the new parking restriction on 2nd Street be reviewed again at the December 14, 2017 In Depth meeting. The following information is being provided to assist in this review. Tickets to violators during the 4 weeks the change has been in effect are:

Week of November 13-17, 2017	31 tickets (average 6.2 per day)
Week of November 20-24 (3 days)	10 tickets (average 3.3 per day)
Week of November 27 – December 12, 2017	24 tickets (average 4.8 per day)
Week of December 4-8	18 tickets (average 3.6 per day)

**"I remember Muscatine for its sunsets. I have never seen any
on either side of the ocean that equaled them" — Mark Twain**

While there appears to be a trend with decreasing tickets, this time period is very short to fully evaluate whether there is a trend in increased compliance.

Just for comparison purposes, following are the number of tickets issued for violating the previous 3-hour limit once per day in each space during the 4 weeks in October.

Week of October 2-6, 2017	8 tickets (average 1.6 per day)
Week of October 9-13, 2017	5 tickets (average 1.0 per day)
Week of October 16-20, 2017	4 tickets (average .8 per day)
Week of October 23-27, 2017	4 tickets (average .8 per day)

While the meter attendants are not soliciting feedback from downtown businesses, they noted that several business owners commented that they are seeing more spaces available for their customers. It should also be noted that during this time period, several on-street spaces on 2nd Street were blocked off due to construction.

Recommendation:

This information is being provided to assist City Council in their review of this change. A longer time period would be needed to fully evaluate the impact of this change to businesses on 2nd Street. No action is being recommended by staff at this time.