

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON REGARDING PARKING RATES AND HOURS OF ENFORCEMENT FOR ON-STREET AND OFF-STREET PARKING IN CITY-OWNED FACILITIES**

**WHEREAS**, Bellingham Municipal Code Section 2.44.060 provides that on-street and city-owned off-street parking rates are to be determined by the Public Works Director and approved by City Council, with an opportunity for input from the Transportation Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, paid public parking is intended to support businesses and economic activity by ensuring parking availability, maximizing parking turnover and encouraging non-motorized transportation options; and

**WHEREAS**, simplifying and streamlining administrative processes benefits City operations and customers alike; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council last updated public parking rates and enforcement hours in 2005 pursuant to Council Resolution 2005-31, with the last increase taking effect in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council established a Climate Action Task Force who identified changes to parking management, including increasing the cost for hourly parking, as tools to help meet the established City policy goal to reduce the production of greenhouse gases; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council finds it is in the City's interest to increase public parking rates in order to further the goals of metered parking and to recapture a greater portion of the City's costs associated with parking operations; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council adopted the "Downtown Plan" in 2014 which, in Chapter 8, identifies minimizing the use of free on street parking, charging higher cost in higher demand areas, using variable rates to respond to demand, pricing off street parking lots lower than on street parking rates as policies of the City for managing paid parking; and

**WHEREAS**, City Council adopted the findings and plan of the Fairhaven Parking Management Plan which identifies progressive measures to manage parking in the Fairhaven business area and surrounding neighborhoods, including paid hourly parking; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fairhaven Parking Taskforce has expressed support to implement paid parking in the Fairhaven business core, to identify longer term permit parking for residents and employees, and indicated support for low income residents affected by charging hourly rates for on street parking; and

**WHEREAS**, the Transportation Commission has reviewed and recommended approval of the fees, rates and hours of enforcement as set forth in this resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM THAT:**

Public parking rates and hours of enforcement are established as set forth herein.

**SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS**

“Metered parking” means on-street parking and off-street city-owned parking designated as metered parking.

“Permit parking” means on-street parking and off-street city-owned parking designated as permit parking.

**SECTION 2. METERED PARKING**

**A. Rates for Metered Parking**

Effective May 1, 2022 (flat rate)  
\$1.00 per hour

Effective January 1, 2023 (progressive rate)  
Hours 1 and 2: \$1.50 per hour  
Hours 3 and 4: \$2.00 per hour  
Hours 5 and 6: \$3.00 per hour  
Hours 7 and 8: \$5.00 per hour

**B. Hours of Enforcement for Metered Parking (Effective May 1, 2022)**

Hours of enforcement of metered parking shall be 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. No enforcement on Sunday.

**C. Service Provider Fees for Metered Parking**

Transaction fees charged by third-party providers for payments by mobile device shall be in addition to the metered rates established in this resolution.

**SECTION 3. PERMIT PARKING (Effective May 1, 2022)**

Permit applications and processing shall follow usual and customary business practices of the City of Bellingham Finance Department as now exists or as may be promulgated or modified by the Finance Director.

**A. Rates for Off-street Permit Parking**

Commercial Street Garage (1300 Commercial)  
Floors 2-5 \$70.00 per month.  
Mezzanine (alley access) \$95.00 per month  
No Charge after 5pm Monday through Friday

Railroad Avenue Garage (1215 Railroad)  
Floor 2 \$70.00 per month  
Street Level \$95.00 per month  
No Charge after 6pm Friday until 11am Monday

Depot Market Lot (1100 Railroad)  
\$65.00 per month  
No Charge after 6pm Friday until 11am Monday

Central Avenue Lot (West of Prospect, near Post Office)  
\$65.00 per month  
No Charge after 6pm Friday until 11am Monday

**B. Rates for On-street Permit Parking**

North Railroad (1500 block Railroad Avenue)  
\$45.00 per month  
No Charge after 6pm Friday until 11am Monday

McKenzie (1000 block McKenzie Avenue)  
\$65.00 per month  
No Charge after 6pm Friday until 11am Monday

**C. Low-income Discount for Permit Parking**

The permit rates established in this section shall be reduced by 80% for full-time residents of subsidized low-income housing located within a parking management zone that is eligible for the utility discount established in BMC 15.04.070(C), subject to a limit of one discounted permit per household per permit period. As set forth in BMC 15.04.070(C), eligible low-income housing means housing provided by nonprofit agencies and public housing authorities, such as the Bellingham Housing Authority or other similar entity, receiving public funds for low income housing, with rents restricted by a federal, state or city housing program for households earning less than 60 percent of area median income (AMI). The application process and means of verifying eligibility shall be determined by the Finance Director or his or her designee. Permits shall be issued on a first come, first serve basis and are subject to availability.

**SECTION 4. MISCELANEOUS PARKING FEES**

**A. Service Provider's Vehicle Permit**

\$250.00 per annum

**B. Meter Hood Permit**

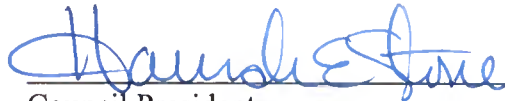
\$23.00 per day per hood

**C. Lost Meter Hood, Lock, Key**

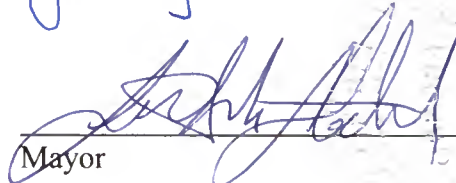
\$55.00 per hood

\$16.00 per lock or key

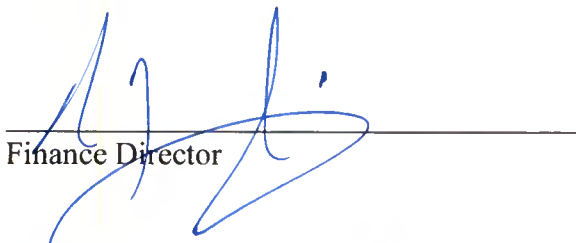
**PASSED** by the Council this 31 day of January, 2022.

  
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Council President

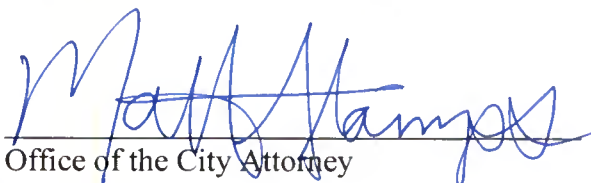
**APPROVED** by me this 31 day of January, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Finance Director

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Office of the City Attorney