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**DOWNTOWN
DEPARTMENT**

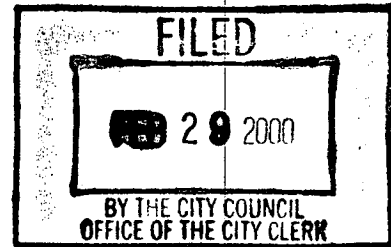
PARKING LOT ADMINISTRATION

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA**

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February 17, 2000



City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Alternative Modes of Transportation – Parking/Public Transit

LOCATION: All Districts

RECOMMENDATION:

This report is for information only.

CONTACT PERSON: Mark S. Miller, Parking Operations Manager 264-7610

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: February 29, 2000

SUMMARY:

On July 27, 1999, the Downtown Department's Parking Facility Services Division presented a report to Council that outlined a recommendation for the adoption of a Long-term Parking Strategy designed to address the City's Off-Street Parking needs for the next 5-10 years. Part of the outcome from the July report was a request from Council for staff to explore and continue pursuing tangible parking programs that support and encourage the use of alternative modes of transportation. This report outlines and describes those new and existing programs.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:

None.

BACKGROUND:

This report is a follow up to a report to City Council given on July 27, 1999 that addressed the Long-term Parking Strategy and its relationship to promoting alternative modes of transportation (i.e. carpooling, transit, bicycling and walking) as a means for commuting to and from work. At Council's request the Downtown Department's Parking Facility Services Division has developed and is implementing and marketing programs, which support alternate mode use. These efforts include re-marketing of our existing carpool discount parking program, discount daily parking passes for occasional single occupancy vehicle use, bicycle parking and implementation of a pilot *spare the air* program which promotes and funds transit use on *spare the air* days. The *spare the air* program is being implemented in coordination with Regional Transit and the Sacramento Air Quality Management District. The remaining sections of this report outline the parking programs that support these efforts:

AMCO - The Alternate Mode Commuter Option (AMCO) is a program that was developed to support individuals who work in the downtown area and use public transit, carpooling, bicycling, walking and other commute alternatives to driving alone. AMCO supports alternative mode user's by providing occasional parking at a discounted rate on days that require commuters to drive alone for appointments or to meet other needs. This discounted rate is available to the customer up to twelve times per quarter and can save the customer over 50% on the cost of daily parking fees.

Carpool Discount - The Carpool Discount program supports clean air goals and traffic congestion reduction goals for the region and City by promoting higher occupancy vehicle use for home-to-work commute trips. A 25% discount on the monthly parking rate is available to 2 or more commuters who travel together at least three days per week Monday through Friday and whose employment is within the downtown core area bound by E Street to the north, R Street to the south, 21st Street to the east, and the Sacramento River to the west. Carpooler's comprised of 3 or more people will receive preferential placement over 2 person carpools on a space available basis.

Bicycle Parking - The Bicycle Parking program provides commuters with bicycle parking provisions at a nominal fee. Fully enclosed (Class I) lockers have been installed Citywide to secure bicycles and provide users with easy access to work sites located in the downtown. Bicycle parking is currently available in City parking facilities G, I, H, K and P for \$10 per quarter.

Spare the Air/Transit program -The City is conducting a pilot *spare the air* campaign during the smoggy season in coordination with the Sacramento Air Quality Management District and Sacramento Regional Transit. This pilot project will link single occupancy vehicle user's parking in City facilities with free transit tickets upon exit on *spare the air* days, which are days when air quality poses a threat to public health. If this pilot project is successful it may be expanded in the years to come to include additional facilities.

For additional information regarding these programs please contact Bonnie Williamson, Administrative Services Officer in Parking Administration at 264-5870.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The implementation of these new programs reduces Parking Enterprise Fund revenues by approximately \$300,000 annually. The Carpool Parking program discounts the monthly rate by 25% and creates a subsidy averaging of \$25-\$35 per month per carpool vehicle parked. The Bicycle Parking program costs are mostly infrastructure related and require one-time capital investments for bicycle lockers at an average cost of \$1,000 per 2-space unit. The daily discounted parking provided through the AMCO program reduces transient-parking revenue by approximately \$7 per participant per day. The *spare the air* pilot program is being funded by Regional Transit and the Sacramento Air Quality Management District and is revenue neutral. The cost of these programs is anticipated and reflected in the Mid-year Report.

ENVIROMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Alternative Mode of Transportation – Parking/Public Transit item is for information only. The City is not taking an action on this item and is therefore not considered a project in accordance with Section 21065 of the Public Resources Code.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

This project supports City Council's policy to provide the citizens of Sacramento with access and services to Downtown and supports one of the goals of the Regional Enterprises and Economic Development Department which is to be financially stable and fiscally responsible.

ESBD CONSIDERATION:

N/A

Respectfully submitted,



Mark S. Miller
Parking Operations Manager



Thomas V. Lee
Deputy City Manager

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:



ROBERT P. THOMAS
City Manager