

To the Mayor and Members of the City Council**May 3, 2016****Page 1 of 2****SUBJECT: VALET PARKING ORDINANCE REVISION**

The City's valet parking ordinance ("the ordinance") allows the City to issue valet permits to businesses to operate valet services in the City's right-of-way.

The City received requests in 2015 to amend the ordinance to modify vehicle parking or standing time in the valet area. The first request was from the Stockyards Hotel for an exemption from the five minute vehicle parking or standing limit because the hotel valet operates in a recessed area on the City's street. The second request was from the Tarrant County Hotel Association suggesting an increase to the vehicle parking or standing time from five minutes to thirty-five minutes to better serve the business needs of the hotels.

Staff has worked with a stakeholder group ("the Stakeholder Group") to review the ordinance as it relates to the vehicle parking or standing time in the valet zone as well as other topics of significance relative to this ordinance. The goal of the Stakeholder Group was to make recommendations on revisions to the ordinance by balancing the needs of the businesses that utilize valet parking, the needs of the patrons, and the City's need of ensuring that valet parking does not unduly obstruct traffic. The Stakeholder Group was composed of Downtown Fort Worth, Inc.; Cultural District Alliance; Tarrant County Hotel Association; The Stockyards Hotel; The Courtyard Blackstone Hotel; Sundance Square; Reata Restaurant; The Convention & Visitors Bureau; Tarrant County Restaurant Association; Eddie V's; Bass Hall; Stockyards Business Association; and City of Fort Worth Police and Transportation & Public Works staff.

The Stakeholder Group identified the following areas of potential improvement, and along with staff's recommendation, the proposed ordinance would include the following changes:

- Valet fees – to remain unchanged;
- Standing time in valet zone –standing time increased to 30 minutes for hotels and will remain as 5 minutes for all other operators;
- Application renewals – simplified and changed to a January to December period;
- Violations – modified to enforce violations against the operator rather than the vehicle owner and added a civil penalty for violating standing time in a valet zone;
- Notification to Surrounding Owners/Lessees for Application – to remain unchanged;
- Standards of operation – cones can be used to delineate operations, and the ordinance will not apply to valet operations on private property or areas under written agreement with the City; and
- Employee safety and public safety – nighttime reflectivity will be required.

It is also recommended that the Stockyards Hotel request to be specifically exempted from the ordinance's regulations and that its specific valet requirements instead be addressed in a Joint Use Agreement ("Agreement") between the City and the Stockyards Hotel. The Agreement will provide the Stockyards Hotel with a license for the use of the recessed pavement area adjacent to the hotel. The Agreement will be for 30 years with 30 year renewal options. The agreed upon fee is \$8,037.30 per year or \$241,119.00 for the first 30 years.



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Staff will bring an M&C to City Council in May 2016 for consideration of the ordinance revisions and approval of the Joint Use Agreement.

If you have any questions please call Alonzo Linan at 817-392-7861.

**David Cooke
City Manager**