

## Meeting Agendas/Info

**CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNICATION:**

**ITEM \_\_\_\_\_**

**01-586**

### **OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

**AGENDA:**

NOVEMBER 19, 2001

**SUBJECT:**

ILLEGAL PARKING  
ENFORCEMENT

**TYPE:**

RESOLUTION  
ORDINANCE  
RECEIVE/FILE

**SUBMITTED BY:**

JIM GRANT  
COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTOR

#### **SYNOPSIS -**

The purpose of this communication is to inform the City Council of a new process being implemented in a joint effort by the Community Development and Police Departments to reduce: 1) parking in the front yard; 2) illegal parking on commercial and vacant lots for the purpose of offering vehicles for sale; and 3) parking on the right-of-way. This team will also look at zoning issues on automobile sales lots.

A crew of two neighborhood inspectors and one police officer will work on weekends on an irregular, unpredictable timetable enforcing existing ordinances. This effort involves a media campaign to educate the public, letters to inform violators of the ordinances, and signage loaned to the property owner by the City to post on a property for the purpose of restricting private auto sales. The process also includes ticketing, towing, and bright orange stickers applied to automobile windshields so that everyone that drives past an offender's vehicle will see that enforcement is taking place.

This effort does involve overtime on the weekends, but it reflects a seven-day-a-week change in the process for enforcement.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT -**

The funds for the overtime expenditure and printing costs can be found in the existing Operating Budget.

#### **RECOMMENDATION -**

**Receive and file.**

#### **BACKGROUND -**

It has become apparent that \$5 parking tickets have not corrected the

behavior of people parking illegally in the City. A long held belief in some quarters has been that the only way to correct this deviant behavior is either to increase the fine and/or impound vehicles. The maximum parking fine is set by State law and cannot be increased at the local level.

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