

Rodriguez, Charlotte

From: Elmer, Linda
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2009 9:30 AM
To: Rodriguez, Charlotte
Subject: FW: 24 Hour Parking Rule should change for residents

Please load into 081651.

-----Original Message-----

From: Kovac, Nik
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2009 12:55 PM
To: 'Todd Wellman'
Cc: Bauman, Robert; Elmer, Linda; Horn, Sarah
Subject: RE: 24 Hour Parking Rule should change for residents

Todd,

Thank you for these thoughtful comments. I am forwarding them to the co-sponsor of these changes, Alderman Bauman. We will make your opinions and those of your neighbors part of the legislative record on this file.

Nik

-----Original Message-----

From: Todd Wellman [mailto:toddwellman@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, May 22, 2009 12:10 PM
To: Kovac, Nik; Horn, Sarah
Subject: 24 Hour Parking Rule should change for residents

To Alderman Kovac and Staff:

I am writing to you to request that you support changes to parking rules. Specifically, tax-paying homeowners like me who have all necessary day and night passes should not be compelled to move their cars. I own a home in your district and I work in downtown Milwaukee, and this 24 hours parking rule makes it (a) difficult to want to remain loyal to Milwaukee because the law is not supportive of me; and (b) impossible to encourage others to believe that Milwaukee is a place that actually wants professionals to live downtown.

Additionally:

1. Environment and Health

I bike to work almost every day in the later spring, summer, and fall.

The requirement to move a car every 24 hours discourages me from being as "green" as possible. There were many days during 2008 (at the time of the temporary longer parking rule) when I would not have to move my car and thus I saved gasoline and reduced environmental impact.

2. Availability of Spots

I often move my car within 5 spots of where it is already parked--many times with the option of several open spaces. This has been true even in the winter in this busiest of neighborhoods near Juneau and Prospect. It does not hold true in my experience that leaving a car in one spot for several days limits other people's ability to park.

3. Going out of Town

The 24 hour rule makes it incredibly difficult for me to leave town on business or vacation. It is troubling that I should have to find and pay for private parking when I am out of town after I have already paid for my night pass and have acquired my day pass.

4. Winter

I have heard that the need to move cars between December 1st and March 1st is due to snow removal. While I experience some snow removal on the streets, I certainly do not recall any substantive cleaning of parking spaces on the two blocks of Juneau east of Astor this

past winter. I consistently moved my car every 24 hours and thus spent time digging my car out--and then either dug out another spot to pull into or, if pressed for time, drove my car into an unkempt spot. I was not only following the rule--but doing the work of others. I enjoy helping out when I can, and I continue to work at a nonprofit and enjoy volunteering at my church, but I find the need of a homeowner on my street to have to move his/her car every 24 hours and clean out the parking spots to be beyond the pale.

5. Homeowner Support Lacking

The nature of the 24 hour rule does not put homeowners first. For example, a summer festival might bring hundreds of extra cars to my neighborhood. If indeed I went to move my car to avoid a ticket and experienced the rare occasion of no other spots near my house, the message I would hear is "Thank you for your tax dollars, but people from other places are more important than your dedication to living downtown."

Thank you for reading my thoughts. I look forward to hearing how you can support the people in our district soon.

Sincerely,
Todd Wellman
Milwaukee, WI 53202