

From: [Tami Carpenter](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#)
Subject: FW: APPROVE PAID PARKING FOR DOWNTOWN
Date: Monday, June 9, 2025 1:11:13 PM

From: Michael McAnelly <m.mcanelly@att.net>
Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 12:26 PM
To: citycouncil <citycouncil@cityofsalem.net>; m.mcanelly@att.net
Subject: APPROVE PAID PARKING FOR DOWNTOWN

There is no question that the City MUST establish paid parking for downtown. The parking fees are a source of revenue. The downtown needs to be brought back to life.

Thank you.

Claudia McAnelly

From: noreply@cityofsalem.net on behalf of halsmith97317@gmail.com
To: CityRecorder
Subject: Submission
Date: Monday, June 9, 2025 10:10:45 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.bin](#)

Your Name	Harold Smith
Your Email	halsmith97317@gmail.com
Your Phone	5416201090
Street	6255 Carver Ct. NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97317
Message	<p>RE: Increased paid parking fees Members of the public should not have to pay to access their government buildings, offices, and departments within the Marion County Courthouse such as the Sheriff, Courts, District Attorney, etc. and other Marion County departments across the street such as Clerk, Assessor, Commissioners, public meetings, etc. County residents already pay significant property taxes and for one to be required to pay to access these agencies and departments seems rather insulting. Furthermore, requiring those persons with an ADA parking permit to pay for parking will further add to their challenges . Finally, if paid security is required for safety in the remaining free parking areas, why is this free parking location a good option? It sends the message that crime is a problem and will continue to be so. Public money could be better spent on certified police officers from SPD doing downtown law enforcement rather than all costs associated with this parking plan. Please reject this proposal.</p>

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From: [Marissa Theve](#)
To: [CityRecorder](#); [citycouncil](#)
Subject: Public comment for 6/9/25 City Council meeting item 7.2c. Ordinance 25-215
Date: Monday, June 9, 2025 11:17:40 AM

Greetings Councilors and City Staff,

I want to thank and congratulate you on the parking reform proposed in ordinance 25-215. I was sorry to read that some members of the public are having gut reactions and that Council is receiving the brunt of those feelings. Many of us have been paying attention, and know this much needed work has been ongoing for years thanks to the advocacy of the Downtown Advisory Committee and members of the public who have read Donald Shoup ([RIP](#)). I understand change is hard, but if we want to make our city affordable and accessible for people who don't want to use a car every trip (the most expensive way to travel), we need parkers to pay for the parking spaces they utilize. Remember: everyone is a pedestrian at some point in their journeys downtown.

As far as I see, the new ordinance does not change the City's handicapped permit policy. [According to the City's website](#), parking fees are waived for wheelchair permit holders and there is a disability permit for all-day parking downtown for \$15. However, if short-term parking is needed by a disabled non-wheelchair permittee, it would be much cheaper and less burdensome to pay the new standard parking rate for the most convenient spaces via app or meter. People who pay for their car storage are more likely to move on once their time is up than spend 3 hours in a spot. There is no way running the same errand with our current 3 hour free parking would be faster or render a closer parking spot than after our parking reform rolls out this July, but I am excited that we will find out for sure soon!

I am disappointed at the people who don't want to pay for the parking they use. This effectively asks other people (businesses and their patrons) to pay for the stalls so they can use them for free. I think these folk may be happily surprised at how fast their downtown errands go come July.

I also agree with Mr. Manvel's May 26th testimony that there is no reason to tie the hands of future councils when it comes to how high of a fee increase is necessary to provide a quality parking product. The cap has already degraded the downtown parking district and it's time to kill it.

I would like to take the opportunity to remind readers that [parking reform is required](#) by the State's [Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities](#) legislation.

Finally, let's keep in mind the side benefits we would soon enjoy with this ordinance like [increased business for restaurants](#), a lower carbon footprint as more people choose non-vehicular transportation methods, moving to unburden local business from public parking subsidies, increasing garage safety, and adequate infrastructure maintenance.

LINKS:

- **Donald Shoup NYT obituary:** https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/19/books/donald-shoup-dead.html?unlocked_article_code=1.Nk8.dzSR.ksWGpgq3MEKx&smid=url-share

- **Salem Disabled Parking Program:**
<https://www.cityofsalem.net/community/neighborhoods/parking/where-to-park/disabled-parking-program>
- **Parking Mandates are Vanishing Across Oregon by Sightline Institute:** <https://www.sightline.org/2023/06/30/parking-mandates-are-vanishing-across-oregon/>
- **Climate Friendly Equitable Communities:**
<https://www.oregon.gov/lcd/cl/pages/cfec.aspx>
- **Are Parking Meters Boosting Businesses?**
<https://www.sightline.org/2012/03/28/is-metered-parking-boosting-business/>

Thank you again for your work and attention to this disproportionately controversial issue.

Marissa Theve, Ward 1

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Marissa Theve (*ma-RIS-uh Tev*)

Pronouns: she/her/hers