



Office of the City Manager

INFORMATION CALENDAR  
November 29, 2005

To: Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council

From: *PK* Phil Kamlarz, City Manager

Submitted by: Stephen Barton, Director of Housing

Subject: Homeless People with Vehicle Impoundment – CF 22-05

INTRODUCTION

On May 10, 2005 the City Council refer to the City Manager and Homeless Commission the issue of allowing homeless and poor people to work off fines.

BACKGROUND

The Homeless Commission met on July 13, 2005 to discuss this issue. They recommended for the City to make efforts to address this problem through no-cost strategies including:  
(Attachment 1)

- Establishing a legal place for homeless people to park;
- Waiving the time limits for working off fines through the performance of community service; and
- Establishing a mechanism to prevent unpaid fines from compounding

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Finance Department reviewed the Homeless Commission recommendations regarding CF 22-05. It is their position that the existing Resolution 62,520 (Attachment 2) should accommodate the recommendations pertaining to community service in lieu of fine payments. Item 2 of the Commission's recommendations suggests waiving the time limit for working off the fines through Community Service. The customer is required to sign up for Community Service within 21 days of the citation issuance, but once they have signed up, they are given several months to complete the work. The work time is negotiable based on personal circumstances. Item 3 suggests prevention of compounding unpaid fees. Once the community service contract is signed, the citation is put on hold and no additional late fees are charged unless the customer fails to complete the community service, which again is usually 2 or more months from the sign-up date depending on the number of hours required to clear the fines. If the customer encounters unforeseen circumstances, they can request an extension for completion of their work hours and late fees will not be added.

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Amend resolution 62,520 to reflect the Homeless Commission's suggestions.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Unknown

CONTACT PERSON

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Attachments:

- 1: Homeless Commission Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2005
- 2: Resolution 62,520