



Agenda Item No. _____

File Code No. 550.10

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 18, 2011

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Transportation Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Downtown Parking Proposed Changes To Fee Resolution

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Amending Resolution No. 11-048 to Establish Parking Fees in the City Parking Lot Located at 217 Helena Avenue and Eliminate the 90-Day Bus Pass Fee for Eligible Downtown Employees.

DISCUSSION:

Helena Parking Lot

The Helena Parking Lot, which is currently under construction, is located on a City-owned parcel at 217 Helena Avenue. Helena Avenue is located one block east of State Street and extends for three blocks between Montecito Street and Cabrillo Boulevard.

The Helena Parking Lot was originally part of a larger parcel purchased by the Redevelopment Agency (Agency) in 1994. The Agency divided the property into three parcels and sold two parcels to the Fess Parker, Jr. Family Trust for the construction of a youth hostel. The remaining parcel became the Helena Parking Lot (see attached aerial photo).

After construction of the Helena Parking Lot is complete, the Downtown Parking Program will operate and maintain the Helena Parking Lot. The project design provides for 29 standard vehicle spaces, including two ADA spaces, an electric vehicle charging station, two motorcycle spaces, and utility infrastructure to support an electronic pay station in the future, if desirable. The Helena Parking Lot benefits surrounding businesses, improves the aesthetics of the area, and advances the "Park Once" concept by providing convenient parking near Waterfront Shuttle stops on lower State Street.

On July 21, 2011, the Downtown Parking Committee recommended that parking staff offer a mix of 90-minute time limit parking and monthly permit parking in the Helena Parking Lot. The Downtown Parking Committee also recommended that the monthly parking permit fee should be comparable to the market value of the surrounding parking lots.

Downtown Parking staff recommends a fee of \$85 per month for parking permits. To discourage overnight camping in the Helena Parking Lot, staff also recommends adding the Helena Parking Lot to the list of lots covered by overnight parking restrictions.

MTD Bus Pass

Additionally, Council eliminated the program that provided a 90-day MTD bus pass for a reduced fee of \$55 per pass to eligible downtown employees as part of the fiscal year 2010 budget. A resolution amending the fee schedule was not prepared at that time. Staff now desires to include the elimination of the 90-day MTD bus pass fee of \$55 per pass in the present Council Resolution amending Resolution 11-048.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The change in the Fee Resolution will be revenue neutral for the Downtown Parking Program. Staff expects the revenue generated from monthly parking permit fees to offset a portion of the cost of maintenance and operation of the lot.

ATTACHMENT: Aerial Photo of Helena Parking Lot

PREPARED BY: Browning Allen, Transportation Manager/kts

SUBMITTED BY: Christine F. Andersen, Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office

217 Helena Avenue Vicinity Map

