We encourage your input and participation at City Council meetings, community meetings, the newly created Citizen’s Advisory Committee, or even through a direct email or phone call. All new programs will have some unforeseen challenges, but we will partner with you to work through them.

Key factors in this decision include:

- Knowledge that non-residents account for over 70% of the Marina’s use.
- Continuing to provide the benefits of the Marina at no cost is no longer viable. Without sustainable revenue sources, we could lose a signature feature of our City we all enjoy.
- Exploration of a variety of options led us to determine that the new parking program is the Marina’s best opportunity to generate revenue to pay for ongoing maintenance, operations and capital investment.

Benefits of Marina Paid Parking:

- Sustainable capital source to preserve Marina infrastructure and prevent further deterioration.
- Enhanced law enforcement to maintain a safe, welcoming environment.
- Helps ensure the Marina area is not disruptive to the community after hours.
- Provides resources that enable the Marina to be used as a logistical and operations location for emergency management activities needed in the event of significant disaster or critical events.

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From the Mayor, continued

- Residents will have reduced fee options through an annual pass. Farmer’s Market visitors will also receive a reduced fee option. Both provide affordable options while still contributing to the Marina and helping it remain viable.

These are some of the major challenges that we have faced and are working on your behalf to address. We know these changes can be difficult and we are listening for ways to minimize the impacts to our community. We encourage your input and participation at City Council meetings, community meetings, the newly created Citizen’s Advisory Committee, or even through a direct email or phone call. All new programs will have some unforeseen challenges, but we will partner with you to work through them. As your representatives, we ask for your input, patience and understanding as we work through these sometimes difficult but necessary changes. They will ensure that Des Moines can grow and remain sustainable. Just like the season, we are in the spring of our future.