

Des Moines Marina Paid Parking Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1 – What is the reason or purpose for creating paid parking in the Marina?

Answer: Revenue, security and to reduce inappropriate activity that occurs there.

Q2 – Has implementation of paid parking in the Marina parking lots been approved by the Des Moines City Council, or are there additional approvals required?

Answer: Implementation of paid parking in the Marina and Beach Park parking lots was approved for implementation on April 7, 2016. No additional approvals are necessary, other than decisions in the ordinary course of the project. (i.e. purchase orders for equipment, decisions on hourly parking rates, annual rates, discount programs, etc.).

Q3 – How much annual revenue is expected and what is the estimated implementation cost?

Answer: We anticipate \$100,000 in net revenue in our planning for the 2017 city budget. The implementation budget is set at \$400,000, spread across 2016 and 2017.

Q4 – Where will the additional revenue go?

Answer: The costs for paid parking and the revenues from paid parking will be accounted for in its own Special Revenue fund. Excess fund balance from the special revenue fund will be available to transfer as council deems appropriate. The 2017 Annual Budget includes an estimate of \$100,000 NET revenues, all of which will be transferred to the general fund for facility maintenance. The 2016-2022 Forecast anticipates an annual transfer to the general fund of \$100,000. As the General Fund's financial health returns in the future, council may re-direct the Paid Parking NET Revenues to capital or other purposes.

Q5 – When will paid parking become effective?

Answer: The detailed schedule is still being defined. The target is to complete installation of equipment and parking lot control methods (fence line, etc.) in the first quarter of 2017.

Q6 – How can I stay informed regarding progress with this project and be able to ask questions or seek clarification?

Answer: A monthly public meeting is being held on the third Wednesday of the each month at the Senior Activity Center, where status is provided and questions are answered. Updates are posted on Facebook and the Marina website (Paid Parking drop down).

Q7 – What physical changes will we see as a result of paid parking?

Answer: The parking lot areas will be re-defined and gate equipment, fence lines (with some landscape or barriers) will be deployed. Some specifics:

Parking areas will be established in the north Marina - Beach Park lots and in the south Marina lot. These areas will be separated at the Marina's office, with a fence line across Dock Avenue. There will be no through traffic between north and south lots on Dock Avenue. The only exception is for emergency vehicles, which will be able to pass through the fence line gate at this location.

Entrance and exit gates will be installed at the north Marina lot (coming in to the lot off Cliff Avenue), the Beach Park (coming in on Cliff Avenue, and at the south lot (coming in on 227th).

Fence lines and other landscape partitions will be used to define the control area. Pay stations will be centrally located in each parking area.

Signage - There will be new signage and traffic pattern arrows painted in the parking areas.

Q8 – Are boaters who are Marina tenants required to pay for parking?

Answer: No. It is the same approach we have deployed today. Tenants will be provided a parking key for entrance and a parking pass for tenant permit areas designated with signage within the parking areas. We anticipate the parking access key will also enable dock access. The tenant key will enable access 24 hours/7 days a week.

Q9 – Will tenant permit parking areas established with signage continue to be enforced?

Answer: Yes. Designated tenant parking areas continue. A tenant parking pass must be displayed on the vehicle.

Q10 – Will the public be allowed unrestricted access?

Answer: No. Access for public parking is limited from 5am to 10pm daily. The access gates will operate during this time period.

Q11 – Will there be enforcement of the Marina’s and Beach Park’s operating hours to remove those who attempt to loiter after the 10pm closure?

Answer: Security and law enforcement will provide periodic sweeps to remove those vehicles who are in the Marina or Beach Park after operating hours. Citations can be used to assist in enforcement. Pedestrian traffic can still have access following parking lot closure.

Q12– Will Anthony’s restaurant be behind the paid parking gate?

Answer: Yes. Anthony’s has elected to be placed inside the paid parking area.

Q13 – Will customers visiting Anthony’s restaurant, CSR Boat Yard, Classic Yacht Sales or other businesses operating in the Marina need to pay for parking with each visit?

Answer: No. Businesses operating in the Marina will provide validation for parking associated with customers or delivery services.

Q14 – Will contractors engaged to work on boats or work for other businesses need to pay for parking?

Answer: No. Parking validations are available from the Marina office or other businesses they are working with.

Q15 – Will events such as the Saturday Market; 4th of July; Waterland event; Music in the Park; or other community events require payment for parking?

Answer: For community events, individual event decisions will be made by the City Council regarding application of paid parking. If the event is determined to be a “free parking” event, all gates will be in the up position to enable access and exit. Limitation within the parking area will still apply (i.e. signage for tenants and businesses).

Q16 – What will the hourly rates cost us for parking in the Marina or Beach Park?

Answer: Rates are currently being reviewed and a schedule will be released upon City Council approval.

Q17 – Will there be annual parking passes for those who regularly visit the Marina and Beach Park?

Answer: Annual parking keys will be available for sale to Des Moines residence only. (Price yet to be determined.)

Q18 – Will there be increased security deployed with the implementation of paid parking?

Answer: No additional security from our existing efforts is planned at this time.

Q19 – Will there be a grace period where individuals come in by mistake and wish to leave?

Yes. This period of time can also be controlled (length of time). As such, the time can be reduced to deter vehicles from “cruising” in the parking lot.

Q20 – Will there be parking and traffic mitigation plans established for the nearby roads where travel and parking (to avoid payment in the Marina) are likely to increase?

Answer: City traffic planning in the immediate area can be reviewed and addressed as the Marina paid parking is implemented.