



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

# R-28

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

333 West Ocean Boulevard 6<sup>th</sup> Floor • Long Beach, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6845 • Fax (562) 570-5836

October 24, 2006

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
City of Long Beach  
California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the information provided regarding a parking fee exemption for certain classifications of Veterans. (Citywide)

## DISCUSSION

On August 1 2006, Vice Mayor Bonnie Lowenthal and Councilmember Val Lerch requested the City Manager to report back to City Council within 90 days on the analysis of an ordinance exempting vehicles belonging to specified classifications of veterans from certain municipal parking fees. As pointed out in the request, parking fee exemptions have been adopted by the cities of Fresno and Culver City. For purposes of providing free parking, these vehicles are identified by license plates issued at no cost by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). This provision would not exempt a vehicle from compliance with any other parking regulation including parking time limits or street sweeping restrictions.

Classifications to be addressed are as follows, together with the statewide number of vehicle license plates issued to the recipients, according to the DMV:

Congressional Medal of Honor Recipients: 16  
Legion of Valor: 92  
Pearl Harbor Survivors: 973  
Purple Heart Recipients: 6,373  
Former POWs: Unknown

According to the DMV, approximately 24 percent of all cars licensed by the State of California are located in Los Angeles County, which gives an idea of the magnitude of the issue.

Parking, which the City has jurisdiction, together with any restrictions, are as follows:

- Marina parking: Provision of a parking fee exemption would require approval of the Coastal Commission.
- Belmont Shore parking meters: Parking meter revenue in Belmont Shore is committed to the creation and maintenance of parking spaces within that business district. Within that context, The Belmont Shore Parking and Business Improvement Area Advisory Commission is charged with advising the City on the use of the parking meter revenue, but that role is purely advisory. The Commission, at its meeting of September 21, 2006, has agreed to support a parking fee exemption for the above listed classes of Veterans.

- Downtown parking meters: Parking meter revenue is shared with the Downtown Long Beach Associates with the City having the right to set the rates. However, the Downtown Long Beach Associates, at its meeting of September 20, 2006, voiced its support for the parking fee exemption.
- The Aquarium parking structure: Provision of a parking fee exemption would require approval of the Coastal Commission.
- The Pike parking structure: Provision of a parking fee exemption would require approval of the developer and the Coastal Commission.
- City Place, Broadway parking structure, Long Beach Airport, and Convention Center: No approvals are needed.
- Catalina Landing: The City does not have direct jurisdiction over parking at this development, but the City could ask the developer to provide the exemption.
- Lots owned by the Redevelopment Agency: Agency approval would be needed to effect this change

If the City Council wishes to adopt such a fee exemption, the enactment of an ordinance amending the Municipal Code would be required.

This matter was reviewed by Assistant City Attorney Heather Mahood and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on September 25, 2006.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

There are no timing considerations with respect to this item.

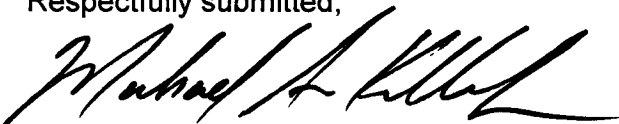
FISCAL IMPACT

Because the number of cars so designated is so small, there is no appreciable fiscal impact.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation to receive and file and provide further direction to the City Manager, if City Council so desires.

Respectfully submitted,



MICHAEL A. KILLEBREW  
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER