



Legislation Text

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TO: Board of Mayor and Aldermen

FROM: Eric Stuckey, City Administrator
Vernon Gerth, Assistant City Administrator - Community/Economic Development
Holland Schellhase, Management Fellow

SUBJECT:
Discussion regarding Paid Private Surface Parking Facilities

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Franklin Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) concerning inconsistencies and concerns regarding private surface parking facilities and possible regulations.

Background

Currently, there are six private off-street surface parking facilities in downtown Franklin. Each of these private parking lots is managed by different companies. The City of Franklin has frequently received complaints from citizens and visitors regarding confusion and fines received from these private parking operators. City staff reviewed the six private surface parking lots to better understand the reason for the confusion and frustration experienced by some visitors to downtown. Staff found that there is inconsistent placement of signage, conflicting messages on signs, and fading paint designating paid parking spots. Citizens and visitors are often confused on where they can park and where the appropriate kiosk is located. In some cases, it is not clear that the lot is a paid parking lot. If a user violates the private paid parking lot rules, they can receive a fine of up to \$150 for a violation. When a visitor receives a ticket from the parking company, they leave with a negative impression of the community and are less likely to visit Franklin again.

Financial Impact

There is not a significant financial impact. Should the Board choose to implement an annual permitting program for paid private surface parking lots, a fee structure would need to be developed.

Recommendation

Staff is seeking guidance on proceeding with the development of an annual permitting program for operators of Private Off-Street Surface Parking Facilities that would include identifiable signage and kiosk location requirements. A specific permitting program would be developed and brought back to BOMA for consideration. The goal of such a program would be to ensure that paid private surface parking lots are

functioning in a manner that is clear, understandable and user-friendly for the public visiting downtown Franklin.