
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

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Ald. Michael S. D'Amato
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Pilot Program Near Downtown Suspends 24-Hour Ticketing For Vehicles Parked On City Streets

*Ald. D'Amato Says Program is Meant to Counter Skyrocketing Gas Prices While
Encouraging Residents to Walk, Bike or Take the Bus to Work, School*

In an effort to encourage Milwaukee residents who live near downtown to use mass transit and other modes of transportation to get to work, the Common Council last month approved a pilot program lifting the city's 24-hour parking restriction on streets in the program's target area.

The first-of-its-kind pilot program, introduced by Ald. Michael S. D'Amato, allows residents to park their cars on the street between March 1 and December 1 in the same spot with a requirement that vehicles be moved only once every five days. "Our existing ordinance requires people to move their cars once every 24 hours, which effectively forces them to drive once a day if they don't have any off-street parking available – adding to pollution, traffic congestion and acting as a dis-incentive to healthier transportation options," said Ald. D'Amato.

"This program encourages people to explore other modes of transportation while removing the daily fear that their vehicle will be ticketed or towed," said Ald. D'Amato, chair of the Common Council's Judiciary & Legislation and Zoning, Neighborhoods & Development committees.

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Pilot Program Lifts 24-Hour Rule/ADD ONE

The alderman said he was moved to push for the pilot program after many contacts over time from people who live in the area who said the 24-hour rule was “misapplied” in a neighborhood where so many residents walk, bike, skate or ride the bus to work and/or campus. “This is the least we can do to assist people who are choosing alternative modes of transportation amid skyrocketing gasoline prices,” Ald. D’Amato said.

“Those residents who are choosing to reduce automobile use in light of the present fuel crisis are truly doing a public service and should not be punished for doing so,” Ald. D’Amato said.

The pilot program applies to legally parked vehicles parked on the portions of city streets located in the target area (see map). Parked vehicles must be in compliance with all city parking rules (i.e. not within 15 feet of a fire hydrant, not blocking a driveway, etc.) and would not qualify if deemed to be an abandoned or nuisance vehicle (flat tires, broken windows, etc.). The program expires on December 1 when the city’s winter parking regulations take effect, designed to allow for plowing and salting operations and for the safe passage of emergency vehicles, Ald. D’Amato said. During the winter the 24-hour rule would still apply.

Residents can examine the exact language of the program by going to www.city.milwaukee.gov and follow the link to Ald. D’Amato’s web page.

Abandoned vehicles can still be reported through the online complaint system on the Milwaukee Department of Public Works web page at www.mpw.net or by calling 286-CITY.