



April 11, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Tom Mattis, City Manager
From: Amy Miller, Community Development Director
RE: Parking fines

The City manager, Police Department, municipal court department and community development department met to discuss these fees and the concern that this is a significantly higher fee than is imposed in other communities. They asked the Main Street Board to review the fees and make a recommendation. The Main Street Design committee and the Main Street Board conducted research about parking fines in Taylor, Bastrop, Hutto, San Marcos, Corpus Christie, and Georgetown. In those communities, similar parking violations generated a ticket fine ranging from \$25 to \$75. Fines in those communities range from \$30 to \$500. The highest fines are used for handicap parking violations.

Parking throughout the community is seeing increased demand due to growth and commercial development. Enforcing parking requirements that meet transportation codes for safety has brought to light that parking tickets in Elgin are typically \$200 for violations such as parking outside the white stripes of a parking space, parking within 15 feet of a crosswalk, or parking more than 18" from the curb.

The Design committee recommended to Main Street Board that the fine structure be adjusted to make the fine for these types of parking violations a maximum of \$50. There is clear agreement among all these entities that parking enforcement needs to occur, that people should park legally, that when they do not park legally they are creating a traffic safety hazard for the general public and that there should be fines for illegal parking. The Main Street Board recommends that City Council consider a parking fine fee structure that makes these type of violations \$50. Illegal parking in a handicap zone would remain at \$298.