

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for the Business and Administrative Committee Meeting: March 2, 2023

To: Business and Administrative Committee
From: Nicholas Caristo, Chief of Police
Re: Further Review of Paid Parking in the Business District
Date: February 23, 2023

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Business and Administrative Committee provide direction for the expansion of paid parking in the business district, including the implementation of a resident decal option and a phase out of parking kiosks. Additionally, staff recommends the Committee explore parking and shuttle/transportation services in partnership with the City of West Palm Beach.

GENERAL INFORMATION

At the January 19, 2023, Business and Administrative Committee meeting, staff provided a framework for the expansion of paid parking in the Town's business district. The plans included:

- Transition of free on-street parking to paid parking through the use of ParkMobile
- Addition of 30-minute free parking in designated locations
- Revision of parking policies and configurations in the Marina District

Staff will be prepared to review elements of the plan and discuss timelines for the rollout.

At the request of the Business and Administrative Committee, staff has researched the potential implementation of a resident decal program. The program would be optional and allow participants to park in ParkMobile (paid) spaces in the business district without initiating a parking session on the mobile app. The program would include:

- An annual fee which would cover the cost of parking
- A vehicle decal that would identify participants when parked in the business district

Staff will be prepared to describe the elements of the program, as well as its potential implementation.

The Town is currently using both ParkMobile and parking kiosks for parking fee payments. The kiosks use outdated technology, require regular maintenance, and create challenges for enforcement officers. In addition, the Town pays for quarterly routine maintenance by the vendor, as well as for individual service calls in between the scheduled maintenance sessions. Staff recommends that the Town phase out the use of parking kiosks in favor of the use of the

ParkMobile payment system. Doing so would improve efficiency and reduce cost to the Town.

Finally, available spaces in West Palm Beach municipal garages, and shuttle/transportation to the Palm Beach, may be a viable option to reduce traffic and the demand for on-street parking in the Town's business district. Staff recommends exploring partnerships with the West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority to expand services that may reduce traffic congestion and parking demand on the island.

cc: Kirk Blouin, Town Manager
Carolyn Stone, Deputy Town Manager
Ben Alma, Support Services Manager
John Randolph, Town Attorney