



City of Yakima

# **News Release**

**Subject: City Council Approves Downtown Parking Changes**

**Contact: Communications & Public Affairs Director Randy Beehler – 509-901-1142**

**Release Date: Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

## **City Council Approves Changes for Downtown Parking**

The Yakima City Council approved a number of changes Tuesday night related to [parking in the downtown area](#). They include:

- Reducing the parking violation ticket amount to \$20
- [Reducing long-term parking pass costs to \\$20 per month](#)
- Ensuring adequate parking for visitors and employees
- Making parking lot parking free for 3 hours
- Making on-street parking free for 2 hours, while leaving flexibility for street parking time limits
- Changing the boundaries of the area wherein people may qualify to apply for parking permits in city-owned parking lots
- Administrative changes

In related action Tuesday night, Council [extended the current moratorium](#) on enforcement of parking on downtown streets and City-owned parking lots through May 31<sup>st</sup>. During the extended moratorium, warnings will be issued for parking enforcement but no fines will be levied. Enforcement will resume June 1<sup>st</sup>.

A moratorium was first approved by Council on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. It was extended to April 19<sup>th</sup> following public input on downtown parking issues during a January 23<sup>rd</sup> community meeting.

As with the original moratorium, parking infractions related to public safety will be enforced. These include:

- Parking in a fire lane
- Parking in front of a fire hydrant
- Parking in a manner that creates a public safety hazard
- Unlawfully parking in a Disabled designated spot

Information about Downtown parking changes and ongoing moratorium is also available via a “Point of Interest” atop the City website, [City of Yakima | The Heart of Central Washington \(yakimawa.gov\)](http://City of Yakima | The Heart of Central Washington (yakimawa.gov))