

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	19218	Agenda Number	64.
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Meeting Date:	10/18/2012	Department:	Transportation
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Subject

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 12-3 establishing the minimum amounts of parking time that may be purchased.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Robert Spillar, 974-2488; Gordon Derr, 974-7228; Steve Grassfield, 974-1489; Gilda Powers, 974-7092
Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

Changes in federal regulations through the Durbin Amendment which took place October 1, 2011, increased the City's credit card transaction fees from \$0.10 to \$0.25 per transaction. With roughly 250,000 monthly credit and debit card transactions, internal costs have increased \$24,750 per month, or a total of \$297,600 per year.

Due to these changes, beginning November 1, 2012, drivers who pay for on-street parking with credit or debit cards will be required to purchase a minimum of one-hour of time. Those using coins may still purchase time in 15-minute increments and will not be affected by this requirement. The new one-hour minimum purchase will, on average, affect only about 14% of our current customer base (Of the typical 34,000 credit card monthly transactions, currently only approximately 14% are ones purchased with credit cards for less than one hour).

It is important to note for those who do use credit or debit cards to purchase time, the one-hour minimum may be used at any parking meter in Austin as long as the time slot remains in effect.

These changes would bring Austin's parking management in line with other Texas cities, including Houston and San Antonio, which currently have one-hour minimum parking requirements, and Fort Worth which currently charges a minimum of \$1.25. Once approved by Council, notices will be posted on all pay stations alerting drivers of the changes.