



## Staff Report

**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Darron Usher, Principal Management Analyst  
**DATE:** June 17, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** Discussion of the City's Parking Citation Fees

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**Description** Discussion of a proposal to increase parking citation penalties to bring Beaumont's fine schedule in line with surrounding cities, improve compliance, and strengthen deterrence for parking violations.

### **Background and Analysis:**

Enforcing parking citations has become increasingly challenging for the Police Department due to the relatively low fines currently in place, which may not effectively deter violations. This, combined with limited resources and growing traffic, has made it more difficult for the Police Department to ensure compliance and maintain public safety on the roads.

The City's current parking fines are lower than those in surrounding cities, according to a survey of 10 neighboring municipalities. Specific examples of discrepancies include:

- **Registration violations:** Beaumont's fine is \$60.00, while the average penalty in neighboring cities is \$70.00.
- **Fire Lane (Red-curb, no-parking violations):** Beaumont's fine is \$35.00, while the average fine in neighboring cities is \$67.00.
- **Handicap parking violations:** Beaumont's fine is \$325.00, while the average penalty in neighboring cities is \$340.00.

These discrepancies indicate that Beaumont's fines may not be serving as an effective deterrent for parking violations. Increasing the penalties across the board, except for commercial vehicle violations, would align Beaumont's fines with those of surrounding cities and encourage compliance.

Staff proposes an increase in certain parking violations, in line with our neighboring cities of Banning, Calimesa, Yucaipa, and Murrieta (see Attachment A).

The proposed fine increases will serve multiple purposes:

1. **Align Beaumont's fines with neighboring cities:** The proposed penalties will bring Beaumont's fines more in line with the surrounding cities, improving fairness and consistency.
2. **Strengthen deterrence against parking violations:** With higher penalties, drivers will have a greater incentive to comply with parking regulations, reducing violations and improving public safety.
3. **Improve public safety and aesthetics:** Parking violations, particularly those involving fire hydrants, red curbs, and handicap spaces, can create safety hazards and unsightly conditions in neighborhoods. Increasing fines will encourage drivers to park responsibly, addressing these concerns.
4. **Encourage vehicle upkeep:** Raising fines for registration violations will encourage residents to pay their registration fees and maintain their vehicles, reducing the number of unregistered vehicles parked in public spaces.

#### **Fiscal Impact:**

The proposed increase in parking fines may result in a modest increase in revenue from citations. However, the primary benefit is the reduction of parking violations and improvement of safety and aesthetics in the city.

The estimated cost of preparing this staff report is \$300.

#### **Recommended Action:**

Discuss and direct staff to bring a public hearing back for Council consideration.

#### **Attachments:**

- A. Parking Citations for Surrounding Cities