

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
DEPARTMENT OF ASSET MANAGEMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager

FROM: Shawn P. Eddy, Interim Director of Asset Management

SUBJECT: One Year Pilot Program to Provide Free Parking at On-Street Meters for Hybrid Vehicles

DATE: May 4, 2006

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This Ordinance authorizes a one-year pilot program to provide free parking at City meters for hybrid vehicles displaying a placard issued by the Parking Division in an effort to promote environmental awareness and provide an additional incentive for citizens to purchase hybrid vehicles.

Staff recommends approval of this Ordinance.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Councilman Roland Gutierrez circulated a six-signature memo on January 30, 2006 to request support for a Pilot Program for Hybrid Vehicle Owners that would provide free parking at city meters for hybrid vehicles for one year in an effort to encourage the use of hybrid vehicles in San Antonio so as to defray the impact of fossil fuel exhaust and other contaminating elements found in vehicle emissions and contribute to cleaner air.

The City of San Antonio Parking Division currently manages 3,307 parking spaces in five garages; 3,165 spaces in surface lots and 2,010 metered spaces both along public right of way and in three surface lots for a total of 8,482 parking spaces. The parking facilities are currently operated as a "parking system" within an enterprise fund that is responsible for covering the cost of operation and debt service with parking revenue generated within the system.

The Texas Department of Transportation currently estimates that approximately 13,000 of the 19M vehicles registered in the State of Texas are hybrid vehicles. Using the same ratio for the 1.1M vehicles in Bexar County, it is estimated that there are approximately 750 hybrid vehicles in Bexar County.

POLICY ANALYSIS

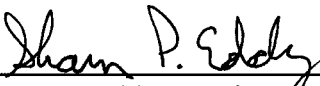
The Quality of Life Council Committee recommended that this item be forwarded for consideration by the City Council on March 23, 2006.

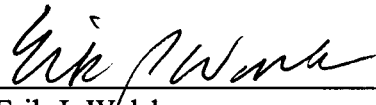
FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated cost the City's Parking Operating and Maintenance Fund of this one-year pilot program to provide free parking for hybrid vehicles for the length of time allotted on the respective on-street parking meter is approximately \$24,000.00.

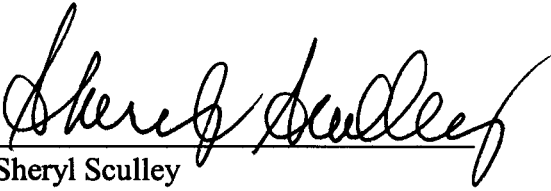
COORDINATION

This request was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office and the Office of Management and Budget.


Shawn P. Eddy, Interim Director
Department of Asset Management


Erik J. Walsh
Assistant City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration:


Sheryl Sculley
City Manager