

-----Original Message-----

From: David Soumis [<mailto:davidso1@charter.net>]

Sent: Saturday, January 06, 2018 8:53 AM

To: Parking

Subject: Proposed parking increases.

Hello,

I just read an article in the Cap Times stating the PArking utility is looking to increase rates at specific ramps.

Madison rates are lower than many cities, but they already curtail my visiting downtown Madison a lot.

Each Saturday I spend at least 5 hours at the Farmers Market and the parking at the State Street Ramp on Carrol St runs \$5-8. That is as much as \$32 a month or more.

If I attend anything on State Street, at the Overture Center, that adds more to it. Some months I spend \$75 on parking.

There is a reason certain ramps are used more. CONVENIENCE. If I'm running quickly into the capitol, I don't want to park 10 blocks away, especially in the rain, or a snowstorm.

The bus schedule is terrible overall, and inconvenient from a time factor. It takes me 2 hours to go from my closest bus drop to the capitol. I can drive in 20 minutes.

Anyway, I understand that costs are always rising, but most of us are not getting the same rise in our paychecks.

I would like to suggest the increase be passed on in the form of city taxes, perhaps a few cents on gas tax, or property tax. The difference per individual would be minimal.

David Soumis

McFarland/Blooming Grove. soon to be Madison by annexation

-----Original Message-----

From: Jacquelyn Irving [<mailto:jacquelyn.m.adams@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 06, 2018 5:22 PM

To: Hoeth, Patrick <PHoeth@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Wilson lot issue-high importance

Hi Patrick,

Hope you are doing well!

My husband had trouble getting up the hill and out of the Wilson street lot today due to snow as did multiple other vehicles. Someone had to help my husband out and another guy had to try and help enforce traffic so that people could get enough traction to get out. Can you please put in a request to make sure they try and clear the hill before paying customers have to depart the lot at the end of the day? We are also supposed to get more snow tomorrow.

I just received notice from the city that they are again considering increasing the rate for this lot, which is super frustrating because rates just went up by \$15 in 2016 and they are posing another \$10 increase, which is close to a 25 percent increase with no increase in services. This also seems really high for a surface lot that does not provide coverage.

Thanks for your assistance and have a nice day!

Thanks,
Jackie
Wilson lot customer

Sent from my iPhone

From: Admin Madison [<mailto:madison563@glazeteriyaki.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 07, 2018 9:59 AM
To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Parking rate hike change

Hello,

I run a restaurant on State St. and I want to say raising the parking rates on the State St. corridor is yet another bad decision:

-I get complaints from customers and employees all of the time about how high the rates already are. It makes it impossible to even recruit employees who want to work down here anymore because they don't want to pay the rates or you have to increase their hourly wage in an already tight labor market to get them to work here. When the students are not here State St. becomes a virtual ghost town because of all the vacant store fronts or lack of places to shop that are down here. Quite frankly anyone who works on State St. should get to park for free as how ridiculous is it that you have to pay to park just so you can work and make money. Talk about just another tax in the long line of many and what is the money used for? Certainly not to clean up the Homeless Vagrants that harass myself, my employees and the few customers I have day in and day out.

-Take a look around and you will find State St. is deteriorating and this is yet just another non business friendly move and one day we will all look around and wonder why Madison has become just like Chicago and Milwaukee when all of the businesses are gone and the criminals have moved in! It has already started!

Thank You!

From: Justin Hall [<mailto:justinreedh@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 08, 2018 5:38 PM
To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Proposed Parking Rate Changes

Good evening,

I'm writing to oppose the potential rate increase at the State Street Capitol Garage. It's one of the few remaining affordable parking garages in downtown Madison. I work downtown and if I need to drive one day, it's a nice option to have an affordable lot. Thank you,

Justin Hall

From: Elaine Wheeler [<mailto:emhwheeler@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2018 9:05 AM
To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Fee increases

Dear City Servants:

I have looked at the proposed parking fee increases and have the following comments:

1. Increasing fees so much is a huge deterrent to people utilizing downtown Madison for reasons we all support:
seeing our state Capitol, visiting public officials, enjoying our natural resources, supporting our local businesses.
2. Regional visitors will continue to stay on the fringes of Madison with such prohibitive parking fees. We should instead create incentives for people to visit downtown such as a free parking day now and then, free bus fare to Farmers' Market, etc.
3. If fee increases are needed, do so in smaller amounts. Parking for special events went from \$5 to \$8, a 60% increase. Too much. We want people to use the Overture Center in greater numbers.

Thanks you for hearing my opinion. Please don't approve such big rate increases.

Elaine Wheeler

From: DEBORAH SCHMITT [<mailto:schmida@sbcglobal.net>]
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 4:51 PM
To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>
Subject: Downtown parking rates

I was very disappointed to hear the parking garage rates are increasing by as much as a third, or in the case of event parking, 60 percent. I always loved Madison because its affordable parking fees enabled people of all income levels to enjoy downtown. The other night I went to a special event to find that the event parking went up to \$8.00. A 60% increase! This will probably affect the number of visits I pay to the downtown and the amount I spend in downtown businesses.

Many of the people parking during the day are state employees, many who have not received any significant raises in years. Increased parking rates can only affect the amount of money they have available to spend in downtown business. Along with the parking garage increase there is now a major cut in availability in scooter parking further increasing costs to lower income people who had found some savings in being able to drive their scooter to work and park at no cost.

It seems as though the philosophy has gone from, "how can we keep Madison affordable for all incomes, to "how much extra revenue can we take in from those who work, or wish to use the downtown.

If it's necessary to make increases, please take the shock out by increasing in smaller amounts so those who don't have Epic incomes can still enjoy the downtown.

Thank you.

Deb Schmitt
1334 Forster Dr
Madison, WI 53704

From: Jordan Poole [<mailto:jdpoole6@gmail.com>]

Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 3:17 PM

To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Comments - proposed rate increase State Street Capitol Garage

Parking Utility,

Thank you for the notice in regards to proposed parking rate increases and the venue to submit comments. I appreciate your time and consideration of affected individuals in the decision making process.

I am a downtown resident who utilizes the State Street Capitol Garage Monday-Friday for around 6 hrs/day. Due to my parking needs, paying for each individual parking instance is a more budget-friendly option than applying for a monthly permit. With that in mind, over the course of a year my parking expenses are roughly \$1,300 (~\$108/mo). This is a significant expense and the proposed \$0.30/hr increase will cost me roughly \$432/yr on top of what I currently pay.

I realize there are budgetary needs and the insistent nature of inflation which feed into decisions of increasing rates. At the same time, I would appreciate your objective consideration of how this increase affects the budgets of many individuals who have come to depend on the parking garages. From my limited perspective as a customer, I would not be in support of the proposed increase due to the additional financial strain.

Again, thank you for your time and engagement.

Jordan Poole

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Keller [<mailto:bancroftcammera@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 4:03 PM

To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Lake Street ramp increase

I think raising the fee for the Lake St. ramp from \$1.30 to 1.50 an hour is going to be a real hardship for those UW students who commute and use that ramp every day. I am a senior citizen and can afford the raise, but most of them cannot.

Sent from my iPad

From: James Belmont [<mailto:bluphoenix28@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 9:15 AM

To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Proposed Parking Increase - Against Email

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is James Belmont and I am a commuter from Middleton, WI to downtown Madison on a daily basis. I am in strong opposition of any increase to our parking rate in the downtown area. Parking downtown already gets a bad reputation and an increase will only go further to discourage many qualified persons from seeking employment in the downtown area. Parking rate increases are not matching cost of living increases at all the various downtown Madison positions and this is already causing people to look elsewhere for employment.

Parking rates are already too expensive as they are, and any proposed increase without some sort of increased service, spaces, rate caps, or faster processing through the wait list for monthly passes is not fair to those who rely on parking downtown and will definitely be a factor in businesses failing in the downtown area.

James Belmont

From: Maureen Mross [<mailto:Maureen.Mross@oakwoodvillage.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 10:40 AM

To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Maureen Mross <Maureen.Mross@oakwoodvillage.net>

Subject: Are you kidding?!!!

To the TPC,

I can't believe you want to raise the rates AGAIN! Your rates now, are too high. I believe that they should be no more than \$1 per hour, which I think is fair. I personally think 50 cents an hour is even better, and would definitely increase shopping on State St., thus more \$\$ for the proprietors.

And just as important, I fail to understand why you ROUND UP the time a person is in a ramp....we should be paying for ONLY the EXACT minutes that we are parked in a ramp. Otherwise, you are gouging us...this should be against the law. This makes me livid. Mayor Soglin, please do something about this!!!

Another thing....the ramps used to be FREE from ?? at night til 8am on Saturdays (and maybe other times, I don't know). It was very handy when going to the Farmer's Market. But you took that away, too. You seriously need to quit being so money-hungry GREEDY, and return to fairness. I avoid the ramps at all costs, if I can. I would appreciate a reply, if you will.

Thank you
Maureen Mross

From: Maureen Mross [<mailto:Maureen.Mross@oakwoodvillage.net>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 10:46 AM

To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>

Cc: Maureen Mross <Maureen.Mross@oakwoodvillage.net>

Subject: One more thing..

Hello again,

One last thing that I forgot....your Special Events placard that you put out....it's \$8 !!!! That's obscene!! \$5 was bad enough....I NEVER go into a ramp when that sign is up. Please reduce it to \$3 or \$4 dollars, as it was not that long ago. Sorry , but all I see is your greed...and I will fight it as long as I live in this area. Please get real!!

M MRoss

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 2:50 PM

To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Proposed Parking Rate Change

In regards to the proposed parking rate change I wanted to express some comments and questions.

I've been employed with the City for a short period of time and although I'm thankful that the City offers a free bus pass, bussing is not always conducive to my current family situation therefor I often elect to park in the State St. Capitol Garage and walk 10 minutes to the CCB for a more flexible schedule relative to my family. I also prefer parking in the garage because I feel it's a safer option. The lighting is really good and I know there are City staff that frequent it.

I tried to get involved with a car pool or other options to cut down on cost but, again with my family situation it's not feasible for my schedule.

I've never really been given a straight answer since I started as to why City employees can't receive discounted rates for parking garages other than that the mayor would like everyone to use the bus system and live in the City of Madison. I know the County offers a discounted rate to its employees and that's what confuses me that the City doesn't.

I wonder why the State St. Capitol Garage has a proposed increase of 33% vs. the State St. Campus Garage of 15%? In my opinion, 33% is quite a disproportionate increase compared to the increased cost of living and the anticipated wage increase annually of often less than 3%.

At one point I did the math and if I parked in the, as of right now, least costly garage in Madison, it would cost me almost \$23,000 in 10 years and by the time my son would be college age I could have saved a large portion of this money for his future education. Unfortunately this cost doesn't even come with convenience in the sense that I still walk 10 minutes one way to get to my place of employment. If I could report it on my taxes as some type of deductible income it would be more justifiable.

As a City, if we are working on trying to maintain a place that if one of our visions is "transport and access" but we charge higher rates at our garages how will we continue to sustain attracting visitors, students and employees?

I imagine you have heard many of these concerns, but what if instead of a 33% increase it was 15% increase consistent with other ramps.

Please keep my identity confidential and thank you for reading and considering.

From: Friedemarie Farrar [<mailto:friedemarief@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 3:57 PM

To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: raising the parking fee

To the Madison Transit and Parking Rate change,

I, Friedemarie Farrar with my about 100 docent colleges from the Chazen Museum of Art are very unhappy about the planed raise of fees in the State Street Campus garage. We are all volunteers and give free tours for everyone in the Chazen Museum of Art We need to be also there for training sessions and one is expected to take lectures in Art History to further ones knowledge of the Museums painting collection. Most of us docents are also retired and we need to pay the parking fee for this volunteer job out of pocket. I would very much like that you could take this in consideration.

Wit regards

Friedemarie Farrar
9 Cheyenne Circle
Madison Wi 53705.

From: Alexis Turner [<mailto:enjoy.adt@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 4:23 PM

To: Parking <Parking@cityofmadison.com>

Subject: Public Hearing Concerns

Dear Sabrina Tolley, Assistant Parking Utility Manager,

Hope you can assist with the following.

I propose holding a second public hearing at the March 14, 2018 meeting for those needing accommodations. In the copies of the February 1, 2018, there doesn't appear to be any information on who to contact in advance if accommodations are needed to attend or participate in the hearing. Also, it would help greatly to have copies of the press releases available to handout at the booths the same day the release is issued.

Sincerely,

Alexis Turner