

AN ORDINANCE **98188**

INCREASING THE FINE FOR AN EXPIRED PARKING METER FROM \$15.00 TO \$20.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR OVERTIME PARKING FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR PARKING IN A LOADING ZONE FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED WITHIN TWENTY FEET OF A CROSSWALK AT AN INTERSECTION FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED WITHIN FIFTY FEET OF A RAILROAD CROSSING FROM \$25.00 TO \$30.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR OBSTRUCTING THE FLOW OF TRAFFIC FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED FACING ONCOMING TRAFFIC FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR OVERLOADING A TAXI STAND FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED IN AN ALLEY FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING DOUBLE PARKED FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED WITHIN FIFTEEN FEET OF A FIREPLUG FROM \$35.00 TO \$40.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED IN AN EMERGENCY PARKING RESTRICTED/SACKED METER DESIGNATED AREA FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BLOCKING A STREET FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BLOCKING A SIDEWALK FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BLOCKING A DRIVEWAY FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BLOCKING A FIRE LANE FROM \$35.00 TO \$40.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED MORE THAN EIGHTEEN INCHES FROM THE CURB/EDGE OF ROADWAY FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED WITH A TIRE ON OR OVER THE CURB/EDGE OF ROADWAY FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED DURING RESTRICTED HOURS FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR USING PUBLIC STREET FOR STORAGE FROM \$33.00 TO \$38.00; INCREASING THE FEE FOR BEING PARKED IN A NO PARKING ZONE OR NO PARKING THIS SIDE OF BLOCK ZONE FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR A HANDICAP PARKING VIOLATION FROM \$100.00 TO \$150.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED IN AN OVERSIZED VEHICLE IN RESIDENTIAL ZONE WITH NO SIGNS POSTED FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR BEING PARKED ON THE FRONT LAWN/SIDE SETBACK FROM \$33.00 TO \$38.00; INCREASING THE FINE FOR OTHER VIOLATIONS FROM \$20.00 TO \$25.00; ESTABLISHING AN INTERNET CONVENIENCE FEE OF \$4.00 PER TRANSACTION FOR PAYMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURTS FINES THROUGH THE CITY'S INTERNET SITE; AND AMENDING THE CORRESPONDING SECTIONS OF THE CITY CODE TO REFLECT SUCH CHANGES.

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WHEREAS, the Texas Transportation Code contains provisions to allow municipalities to decriminalize parking offenses; and

WHEREAS, on September 10, 1987, City Council approved Ordinance No. 65690 (the "Ordinance") declaring the violation of City ordinances relating to parking and stopping vehicles to be civil offenses and prescribing civil fines and other civil penalties; and

WHEREAS, the maximum fine was set at \$200 per violation and a schedule of fines for uncontested tickets was approved; and

WHEREAS, the Ordinance also provides that an Administrative Hearing Officer shall adjudicate contested citations and determine the appropriate fine; and

WHEREAS, fines for parking violations have not been adjusted since October 1999 and are below those of other major cities in Texas, such as Dallas and Houston; and

WHEREAS, an across-the-board increase of five dollars (\$5) in the fines for various parking violations is recommended, with the exception of the fine for *Oversized Vehicle in Residential Zone with Prohibiting Signs*, which is proposed to remain at the current \$200 maximum; and

WHEREAS, approval of this ordinance will generate an estimated \$175,000 in General Fund revenue for Fiscal Year 2004; **NOW THEREFORE:**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN ANTONIO:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby authorizes and approves an amendment to Chapter 19, Section 38(a) of the City Code to increase fines for certain parking violations as indicated on the schedule attached hereto and incorporated herein as Attachment A, with the exception of the fine for *Handicap Parking Violation*, which City Council authorizes and approves to be increased from \$100 to \$150.

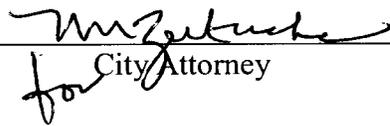
SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be effective on October 1, 2003.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 18th day of September, 2003.



M A Y O R
EDWARD D. GARZA

ATTEST 
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: 
City Attorney