



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Hans F. Larsen

**SUBJECT: ENFORCEMENT OF DISABLED
PARKING VIOLATIONS**

DATE: May 21, 2014

Approved

Date

5/21/14

This memorandum is in response to a question raised by Councilmember Oliverio, during the Transportation and Aviation CSA Council Study Session on May 8, 2014, regarding the number of disabled parking citations that would need to be written by a Parking and Traffic Control Officer (PTCO) dedicated to enforcing disabled parking violations to reach cost recovery.

Currently, approximately 2,000-3,000 disabled parking citations are issued annually. A majority of these citations are issued as a result of proactive coverage by Department of Transportation PTCOs. As part of their regular route coverage, PTCOs pay particular attention to public and private parking facilities with a significant number of disabled parking spaces, such as shopping malls and hospitals, downtown garages, and on-street spaces.

The fine for disabled parking violations in San José is currently \$310. This fine is reduced to a \$25 administrative fee for vehicle owners that provide information that they possessed a valid disabled placard at the time the citation was issued. It is important to note that a high number, approximately 50%, of all disabled parking citations are appealed resulting in a significant number that are reduced to the \$25 administrative fee (over 40% of issued citations). Further, the collection rate for disabled parking citations is lower than for other types of citations.

Therefore, the number of added citations that would need to be issued to recover the direct cost of \$63,000 for a PTCO dedicated to disabled parking violations and approximately \$15.00 per citation for processing fees is between 700-800 per year, with a higher number issued during the first year (1,200 – 1,300) to offset vehicle and equipment costs.

If Council desires an increased focus on disabled parking spaces, staff believes that an additional PTCO position would be cost recovery. However, in lieu of dedicating an officer to just one type of violation, staff would restructure existing routes to enable more frequent coverage of locations with disabled parking spaces by multiple officers, in addition to providing enhanced coverage of other high priority areas, such as street sweeping zones.

/s/

HANS F. LARSEN
Director of Transportation

For questions, please contact Laura Wells, DOT Deputy Director of Transportation and Parking Operations at (408) 975-3725.