

CITY OF ANNAPOLIS  
160 DUKE OF GLOUCESTER STREET  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
410-263-7997



TRANSPORTATION BOARD  
CHAIRMAN: ALEX PLINE  
VICE CHAIRMAN: CHRISTOPHER P. AIKEN  
SECRETARY: AMY JONES

Mayor and City Council  
City of Annapolis  
160 Duke of Gloucester St.  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Recommendation for R-32-16 Amending Parking Fines

Dear Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council:

The Transportation Board met on October 26, 2016 to discuss R-32-16 Amending Parking Fines, specifically whether the escalating fines for second and subsequent violations should be removed and replaced with the same fines as the first violation (twice the daily garage rate).

***The Board voted 4-2 to support R-32-16.***

**Rationale:**

The accepted rationale for escalating parking fines is to penalize repeat offenders more heavily than first time violators. During our meeting we heard from several residents of Ward 1 about the ongoing parking pressures there. Several points were made: that repeat offenders and historical lack of enforcement are the causes of the parking pressure. There is empirical evidence of lax enforcement prior to August 2016 when SP+ began fully utilizing the OPR vehicles, but there is no data to support the assertion that repeat offenders are a significant problem. As a result, we can not say one way or the other whether escalating fines would have any effect on behavior and thus parking availability. In the absence of a concrete rationale for escalating parking fines, the effects of potential negative publicity to the city and its businesses from perceived harsh fines outweigh the potential benefits.

We recommend that SP+ continue their enforcement and gather data on parking violations over the next 12 months, not only in two hour residential areas, but all parking facilities. Once enough data has been gathered over a full calendar cycle, an in depth analysis should be performed to determine the nature of the violations and whether they are unique to particular facilities. Once the analysis has been performed, the City Council should revisit the fine structure and propose

changes based on the data and best practices that make the most efficient use of the available parking supply.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, you can reach me at [alex@teampline.org](mailto:alex@teampline.org) or 443-510-7297.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alex P. Pline". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Alex Pline  
Chair, Transportation Board