



Jan-Michele Lemon Kearney
Councilmember

September 22, 2021

MOTION

WE MOVE for the City Administration to extend the current parking amnesty period for unpaid parking tickets incurred within the City of Cincinnati to December 31, 2021. The amount owed during this amnesty extension will include only the original parking ticket cost and no additional penalties or fees.

WE FURTHER MOVE for this amnesty period to authorize any person who pays an unpaid parking ticket or tickets by October 31, 2021, to pay half of the full balance of the original ticket cost and no additional penalties or fees.

WE FURTHER MOVE that all unpaid parking tickets incurred within the City of Cincinnati are eligible for the amnesty described above regardless of when the parking ticket was issued, or the number of parking tickets issued to any individual.

WE FURTHER MOVE for the City Administration to report to City Council the data collected pertaining to the amnesty period extension and October amnesty program, including amount of funds collected.

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STATEMENT

Paying parking fines and subsequent financial penalties are an economic hardship for many Cincinnatians, especially during the pandemic. According to the U.S. Census 2019 American Community Survey, 23 percent of our community's population live below the poverty level and this extension of amnesty through December 31, 2021, will remove financial burdens faced by our residents. The amnesty program will also encourage residents to pay outstanding parking tickets as late fees and penalties will be forgiven and/or waived.

For the year of 2021, the City of Cincinnati has approximately 27,768 unpaid parking tickets. In 2020, the City of Cincinnati had 18,888 unpaid parking tickets, and in 2019, the City had approximately 23,173 unpaid parking tickets. In 2018, the City of Cincinnati had 21,234 unpaid parking tickets, and in 2017, the City of Cincinnati had 18,373 unpaid parking tickets. Finally, in 2016, the City of Cincinnati had approximately 17,667 unpaid parking tickets. It is evident that the collection of parking ticket payments has stalled. This motion serves to accelerate the payment of unpaid parking tickets while providing much-needed relief to our citizens. The tickets issued in 2021 and 2020 range from \$250 to \$45, with a median amount of \$65 per ticket as an average of the amount owed to the City of Cincinnati.

We ask that the City Administration inform Council of the data collected from this relief program, including amounts collected during the amnesty and amnesty extension periods.