



# City of Duluth

411 West First Street  
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

## Minutes

### Parking Commission.

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Friday, October 3, 2025

7:30 AM

Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City Hall

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#### ROLL CALL

##### Members Present

- Antonio Davis
- Mike Mayou
- Andrew Paszak
- Branden Robinson, President
- Brandon Van Tassel, Vice President
- Robert Woods
- Mark Bauer, Ex Officio

##### Members Absent

- Terese Tomanek

##### Guests Present

- Bryn Pollard, Duluth Operations Manager – Interstate Parking Company
- John Ramos, Investigative Reporter – Duluth Monitor

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

City of Duluth Parking Services Manager Mark Bauer presented the September 2025 Duluth Parking Commission meeting minutes for approval. Commissioner Robert Woods motioned that the minutes be approved. Commissioner Mike Mayou seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments during the initial public comments period.

#### ON-STREET ACCESSIBLE PARKING ZONE REQUEST

Mr. Bauer presented one on-street accessible parking zone request for approval, for 4816 Dodge Street. He stated he had visited the site and consulted with the applicant's family, and that the City of Duluth Commission on Disabilities had also been consulted. He stated that the applicant had requested accessible parking zones on both sides of the street to accommodate alternate side parking and that he recommended approval of the two-sided configuration. Commissioner Woods motioned that the proposal be approved as presented. Commission Vice President Brandon Van Tassel seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0.

#### 2026 PARKING FUND BUDGET PROPOSAL

Mr. Bauer presented the proposed 2026 Parking Fund budget. He stated that the budget reflected the completion of all deferred parking facility maintenance following several years of increased investment, proposed 2026 parking rate changes, and the opening of the second new hospital-area parking facility. He stated that due to the City's overall budget challenges for 2026, he had not recommended a reduction in the Parking Fund's annual General Fund transfer amount, but he added that this was still a discussion item and would be further explored for the 2027 budget year. Commissioners Woods and Mayou expressed the need to continue to work toward reduction in the annual transfer amount, as well as the need for the Parking Commission to have input into the process. Commissioner Andrew Paszak motioned that the proposed budget be approved with the condition that a request be made to the City's Finance Department to present a plan for addressing the General Fund transfer concerns in a future Parking Commission meeting. Commissioner Van Tassel seconded the motion, which was approved 4-2 (Commissioners Woods and Van Tassel opposing).

#### 2026 PARKING RATES PROPOSAL

Mr. Bauer presented the Parking Services Division's recommendations for 2026 public parking rates. The proposal included moderate increases to off-street monthly parking rates and within certain hourly rate tiers, as well as an increase to the on-street parking fee from \$1.50 per hour to \$2.50 per hour. He stated that the on-street fee recommendation needed further input from the local business community and that this portion of the recommended rates package may be revisited in the November Commission meeting with a modified recommendation. Interstate Parking Company Duluth Operations Manager Bryn Pollard provided further detail on the off-street rates recommendations, noting that most resulted from a study of the facilities' supply-and-demand for parking stalls, balanced with considerations such as proximity to destinations. Commissioner Davis motioned that the rates package be approved. Commissioner Paszak seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0.

#### PROPOSAL TO REMOVE ONE SINGLE-STALL METER ON SOUTH LAKE AVENUE

Mr. Bauer presented a proposal to remove one single-stall parking meter on South Lake Avenue. He stated that the proposal had been generated by an adjacent business owner and was related to the owner's plan to add a street access point to a private off-street lot to increase usability and safety. Mr. Bauer stated that the City's Engineering Department supported the proposed plan. Commissioner Woods motioned that the proposal be approved. Commissioner Mayou seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0.

#### PROPOSAL TO EXTEND PARKING SETBACKS ADJACENT TO 6TH AVENUE EAST AT FIRST STREET

Mr. Bauer presented a proposal to extend parking setbacks on 1st Street from

both sides of the intersection at 6th Avenue East. He stated that the proposal had been generated by the City's Streets Maintenance Division and that the purpose was primarily to allow for snow storage and adequate turn radii for City maintenance vehicles. He stated that the applicable portion of 6th Avenue East was new this season and that it did not feature space for snow storage on either side. He stated that the setbacks would extend to points to the east and west of the intersection 45 feet from the edge of the roadway. Commissioner Paszak motioned that the proposal be approved. Commissioner Woods seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0.

#### PROPOSAL TO PROHIBIT PARKING ON PORTIONS OF GREENE STREET WEST OF 63RD AVENUE WEST

Mr. Bauer presented a proposal to prohibit parking on two portions of Greene Street, west of 63rd Avenue West. He stated that the request had been generated by the City's Streets Maintenance Division and that the intent was to allow adequate room for snow storage and maintenance vehicle turning radii while still allowing adequate parking related to public access to the nearby trailhead. Commissioner Mayou motioned that the proposal be approved. Commissioner Paszak seconded the motion, which was approved 6-0.

#### OFF-STREET PARKING UPDATE

Mr. Pollard provided an update on off-street parking operations. Mr. Bauer provided a presentation on parking facilities' calls for service and security incidents, noting the clear success of the access control systems' installation and continued low reported incidents. He illustrated the effects of reopening the Hart Ramp perimeter security system in relation to a facility structural issue, noting the corresponding increase in number of incidents and the decrease once the system was re-implemented. He agreed to continue to provide regular reporting on parking facilities security.

#### ON-STREET PARKING UPDATE

Mr. Bauer stated that the City was exploring the possibility of enhanced virtual payment options for on-street parking and that he would continue to update the Commission.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS FOLLOW-UP

There were no additional public comments.