



THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIN

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
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May 18, 2010

TO: Judy Arnold, Board President
Susan Adams
Hal Brown
Charles McGlashan

FROM: Steve Kinsey

SUBJECT: First Reading of Ordinance amending Marin County Code sections 15.33.030, 15.33.031 and 15.33.032 relating to parking fines in Stinson Beach, Muir Beach and Bolinas.

Recommended Actions: Schedule for June 8, 2010 the following items: 1) hearing regarding the proposed ordinance; 2) hearing regarding resolution increasing fines for violation of no-parking zones in Stinson Beach, Muir Beach and Bolinas to \$99; 3) discussion and action regarding direction of funds due to the increased fines to the Marin County Sheriff's Department for support of traffic enforcement program in the three villages.

Dear Colleagues,

On good weather days, the coastal communities of Muir Beach, Stinson Beach and Bolinas experience extraordinary pressure from visitors and tourists because of their proximity to the urban Bay Area. This pressure impacts the communities in a number of ways, but one of the worst impacts is traffic gridlock. One of the impediments to traffic flow is vehicles which are parked in no-parking zones.

Both the intensity and seasonal duration of extreme traffic congestion has increased along the coast, and on some days it can take 2 hours to get to Stinson. Often when people arrive there is no parking, and frequently they choose to park in no-parking zones and just pay the fine. The roadways in each of these three villages are narrow and constrained, and violation of no-parking zones constrains them further - slowing traffic, adding to the general mayhem, and sometimes eliminating access for emergency vehicles.

In order to create the greatest possible disincentive to violators I propose that our board consider several actions leading to an increase in fines and enforcement of parking regulations in these villages.

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5TH DISTRICT

CLERK

MATTHEW H. HYMEL

Proposed ordinance and related actions

Currently, County code prescribes that the fine for violation of the no parking zones in these three villages is \$63. This ordinance, if adopted, will establish that parking fines in the villages will be determined by resolution, enabling a simpler process for future changes to the fine amount. I propose that our board call for the hearing for this ordinance on June 8, and that the ordinance be accompanied by a resolution providing an increase of parking fines in these three communities to \$99 - just under the State's legal limit.

As was discussed at our March 29 budget hearing, adequate enforcement is an essential component of any traffic management program. At our June 8 meeting, I will also be asking our board to direct the Marin Parking Authority and Sheriff's Department to manage the increased fine revenues resulting from these actions to help fund the presence of Sheriff's deputies in Stinson Beach, Bolinas and Muir Beach during peak periods for parking enforcement and traffic management.

The proposed ordinance, resolution and strengthened enforcement program are supported by these three communities and local agencies.

This proposed ordinance is part of a multifaceted approach that we are undertaking to address the enormous impacts of overwhelming numbers of visitors to the coastal villages. We have already responded to the problem of camping in Bolinas. With support from Marin Transit, we are also encouraging use of transit and are planning improvement of bus stops in all three villages, as well as seeking funding for electronic message signs on Highway 101 which will tell drivers when National Park Service parking lots are full.

Please join me in calling for the hearing regarding this ordinance on June 8, 2010. Additionally, I request that we schedule for June 8 the resolution increasing the parking fines at Muir Beach, Stinson Beach and Bolinas to \$99.

Lastly I request that on June 8 we discuss and act to establish a new line item in the Sheriff's budget where the portion of the fine revenue above the current level will be assigned to support enforcement in these three villages.

Sincerely,



Steve Kinsey
Supervisor, District Four

FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT: Additional revenues generated by increased fines will be used to offset existing Sheriff's Office costs for traffic enforcement in Bolinas, Stinson Beach and Muir Beach.

REVIEWED BY: ☒ County Counsel ☒ County Administrator ☒ Department of Public Works
☒ Marin County Sheriff's Department

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