



SFMTA
Municipal
Transportation
Agency

Community Service and Payment Plan Fee Proposal

SFMTA Citizens' Advisory Council
November 14, 2017

History

- Legacy program from when Superior Court handled parking citations
- Parking citations were decriminalized in 1990s and the program continued
- Enrollment:
 - Payment Plan – SFMTA Customer Service Center
 - Community Service – SFMTA Customer Service Center & 3rd party vendor

Municipal Fees & Fines Task Force

- Task Force created through Board of Supervisors resolution (July 2016)
- Composed of staff from city and county departments (including SFMTA) and community organization representatives
- Directed to study the impact of fines, fees and other financial penalties on low-income San Franciscans
- Task Force met over six months and forwarded recommendations as part of final report
- Ensure consequences for transportation violations hold people accountable but do not pose an inequitable burden for low income San Franciscans

AB 503

- Remove barriers that prevent Californians from registering their vehicles.
- Adding the cost of parking violations to the total cost of registering a motor vehicle can prevent indigent Californians from being able to afford their registration fees.
- Failure to register a vehicle reduces revenue for the state and local governments.
- Currently, drivers who are unable to pay their parking tickets have no guaranteed right to set up a payment plan or have their tickets and penalties reduced if they are considered indigent.
- Drivers who are unable to pay their parking tickets and who then lapse behind on their registration fees are subjected to increased fines and fees that are difficult to recover from.

Program Costs/Revenue

	Community Service Credit	Payment Plan	Total
Annual Cost (Labor)	\$441,878	\$285,605	\$727,482
Annual Fees Generated	\$125,000	\$30,000	\$155,000
Difference (\$) Costs vs. Fees	(\$316,878)	(\$255,605)	(\$572,482)
Difference (%) Costs vs. Fees	-72%	-89%	-79%

In addition to the administrative costs, community service credit posted against outstanding fines and penalties reduced revenue by approximately \$575,000 in Fiscal Year 2017.

With lower enrollment fees, this amount will increase, however, it is unclear what percentage of these payments would be received if no community service credit program was available.

Community Service

	Current	Proposed*
Fees	<u>Amount Owed</u>	<u>Amount Owed</u>
	Up to \$400 - \$78	\$150 or less - \$25
	\$401 to \$800 - \$104	\$151 to \$300 - \$50
	\$801 to \$1,000 - \$155	\$301 to \$600 - \$75 \$601 to \$1,000 - \$125
Timeline for Completion	6 - 14 weeks (depending on amount owed)	6-18 weeks (depending on amount owed)
Minimum Payment/Month	N/A	\$151 to \$300 - \$40
Max Number of Plans/Year	2	2
Max Value Per/Year	1,000	1,000
Concurrent Plans Allowed	No	No
Late Penalty/Fee Reduction	N/A	N/A
Deadline for Enrollment	Before vehicle is towed/booted	Before vehicle is towed/booted

*One-time fee waiver for low-income customers

Payment Plan

	Current	Proposed - Standard	Proposed - Low-Income*
Fees	\$62	\$25	\$5
Timeline for Completion	6 to 14 weeks (depending on amount owed)	6 to 18 weeks (depending on amount owed)	18 months
Minimum Payment/Month	N/A	N/A	\$25
Max Number of Plans/Year	2	2	No maximum
Max Value Per/Year	1,000	1,000	No maximum
Concurrent Plans Allowed	No	No	Yes (unlimited)
Late Penalty/Fee Reduction		N/A	Yes (fees reinstated if plan is not completed)
Deadline for Enrollment	Before vehicle is towed/booted	Before vehicle is towed/booted	Within 60 days of citation issuance or conclusion of review process**

*Low-income customers defined at 200% of federal poverty level

**One-time exception granted after DMV registration hold has been placed