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ORDINANCE NO. 26-5590

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA; CHAPTER 33, TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES; ARTICLE IV, STOPPING, STANDING, OR PARKING; TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HOURS DURING WHICH PAID PARKING IS IN EFFECT FOR ON-STREET PARKING SPACES, FOR SURFACE PARKING LOTS AND FOR CITY PARKING GARAGES AS MORE FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN; AND TO FURTHER INCREASE FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF CITY PARKING REGULATIONS AS MORE FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE PARTS HEREOF; REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT PROVIDING FOR READING BY TITLE ONLY; AND FOR PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, at the March 23, 2026 regular City Commission meeting the Manager of the City's Parking Division made a presentation to the City Commission in which he advised that the revenues received by the Division from charges to park and from fines from parking violations was not generating sufficient revenues to cover Parking Division expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Parking Manager advised that the Parking Division operates with an enterprise fund for which it is anticipated that incoming revenues will be sufficient to fund operational expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Parking Manager explained various reasons for the shortfall in anticipated revenues (including, but not limited to, flooding on St. Armands Circle, red tide and under utilization of City parking garages) and also explained various anticipated expenses to be incurred in the near future (including, but not limited to, replacement of parking meters damaged or destroyed by flooding, replacement of parking meters to be compliant with credit card companies' requirements, replacement of parking garage elevators and purchase of new automatic license plate recognition devices); and

WHEREAS, in order to address the situation and to avoid the need to use the General Fund to pay for needed capital improvements, recommendations were made to the City Commission that included options such as raising fees to park in public parking spaces; lengthening the time for paid parking for on-street parking, parking in surface lots and parking in public garages; and raising fines derived from citations for various parking violations; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission approved recommendations to (1) increase the number of hours during which paid parking would be in effect for on-street parking, surface lot parking and for parking in city garages; and (2) increase fines for parking violations by five dollars (\$5.00) and set fines for violations that are a threat to public safety at \$50.00; and these recommendations are implemented by the adoption of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds the amendments to Chapter 33 of the City Code, as more particularly set forth herein, are in the public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The Code of the City of Sarasota, Chapter 33, Traffic and Motor Vehicles; Article IV, Stopping, Standing, or Parking; Division 1, Generally; Sec. 33-1, Definitions, is hereby amended to revise the definition of the word "Holidays" as follows:

(Additions to text are indicated by underline; deletions by ~~strikeout~~.)

Sec. 33-1. - Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases, which are not defined in the Florida Uniform Traffic Control Law (F.S. Ch. 316) shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this section, except where context otherwise requires:

Holidays, where used in this chapter or on official signs erected by authorized official agencies, such term shall, ~~in addition to Sundays,~~ mean the following days: ~~to be declared holidays;~~ New Year's Day, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, ~~Washington's Birthday,~~ President's Day, ~~Good Friday Afternoon,~~ National Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Section 2. The Code of the City of Sarasota, Chapter 33, Traffic and Motor Vehicles; Article IV, Stopping, Standing, or Parking; Division 2, Parking Meters; Sec. 33-131, Definitions, is hereby amended as follows:

(Additions to text are indicated by underline; deletions by ~~strikeout~~.)

Sec. 33-131. - Definitions.

For the purposes of this division and any other provision of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them by this section:

Individual parking space means a portion of the paved surface of the street or, municipal parking lot, or municipal parking garage of sufficient length and width to accommodate a vehicle to be parked, as shall be specified and marked off by the direction of the city manager.

Mechanical parking time indicator or parking meter means a device which shall indicate thereon the length of time during which a vehicle may be parked in a particular place, which shall have as a part thereof a receptacle for receiving payment by credit card, debit card, or other electronic means. Such device shall contain a timing mechanism to indicate the passage of the interval of time during which parking is permissible. Such device shall also display an appropriate signal when the interval of time shall have elapsed and brief instructions as to its operation.

Parking means the standing of a vehicle upon a public street or, municipal parking lot, or municipal parking garage, whether such vehicle is occupied or not, and whether such vehicle is accompanied by an operator or not.

Parking pay station or pay station means a mechanical and/or electronic device which regulates parking in one (1) or more parking spaces by allocating a defined period of permitted parking in exchange for a defined amount of authorized legal tender. A rate schedule showing the defined amounts of authorized legal tender required for defined periods of parking shall be displayed on or adjacent to the parking pay station.

Section 3. The Code of the City of Sarasota, Chapter 33, Traffic and Motor Vehicles; Article IV, Stopping, Standing, or Parking; Division 2, Parking Meters; Sec. 33-135, Maximum parking time; notice; hours of operation; applicability, is hereby amended as follows: (This section applies to parking spaces in which there is a charge to park.)
(Additions to text are indicated by underline; deletions by ~~strikeout~~.)

Sec. 33-135. - Maximum parking time; notice; hours of operation; applicability.

(a) ~~The city manager shall, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, determine the length of time that parking is permissible in an individual parking space for which the deposit of payment in the a parking meter or parking pay station is required. Notice to the public shall be given by appropriate signs setting forth the length of time for which parking is permitted and the conditions thereof. Such signs may be posted upon the parking meter stand, pay station or in the immediate vicinity. It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle or allow any vehicle to remain parked in any parking space for which the deposit of payment in a parking meter or parking pay station is required for a period of time longer than the time limit allowed pursuant to the payment made through the mechanical parking time indicator, parking meter, parking pay station or other device or procedure used for collecting parking fees and charges.~~

(b) ~~Except as provided in subsection (d) below, the provisions of this division shall apply to vehicles parked or standing upon the streets of the city when such vehicles are parked or standing upon such streets between the hours of 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Monday through Saturday, inclusive 12:00 a.m. midnight seven (7) days a week. The provisions of this division regarding maximum parking times shall not apply to vehicles parked or standing upon the streets of the city on Sundays and holidays, however nothing herein shall prevent enforcement of other provisions of this chapter on Sundays and holidays as is necessary to maintain public safety.~~

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d) below, the provisions of this division shall apply twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week to vehicles parked or standing in municipal garages and municipal surface parking lots.

(d) The provisions of this division shall not apply on holidays as defined in Section 33-1 of this chapter.

Section 4. The Code of the City of Sarasota, Chapter 33, Traffic and Motor Vehicles; Article IV, Stopping, Standing or Parking; Division 2, Parking Meters; Sec. 33-136, Duty of operators of vehicles to deposit payment; parking beyond time fixed for such vehicle; is hereby amended as follows:

(Additions to text are indicated by underline; deletions by ~~strikeout~~.)

Sec. 33-136. - Duty of operators of vehicles to deposit payment; parking beyond time fixed for such vehicle.

When any vehicle shall be parked in any space alongside of or next to which there is located a parking meter or any space numbered and designed for use with a corresponding pay station, the owner or operator of such vehicle shall, upon entering the parking space, immediately deposit a payment in the parking meter alongside of or next to such parking space or in the assigned pay station, and the parking space may then be used by such vehicle during the parking time limit prescribed by the city manager for that part of the street, municipal parking lot, or municipal parking garage in which such parking space is located. If the vehicle shall remain parked in any such parking space beyond the parking time limit allowed, the parking meter shall display a sign showing illegal parking and, in such event, such vehicle shall be considered as parked overtime.

Section 5. The Code of the City of Sarasota, Chapter 33, Traffic and Motor Vehicles; Article IV, Stopping, Standing, or Parking; Division 1, Generally; Sec. 33-118, Parking in excess of posted time, is hereby amended as follows: (This section applies to parking spaces in which there is no charge to park.) Additions to text are indicated by underline; deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

Sec. 33-118. - Parking in excess of posted time limits prohibited.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle or to allow any vehicle to remain parked upon any public street of the city in any given parking space for a period of time longer than the time limit indicated on signs which are posted on such public street by authority of the city engineer. Further, it shall be unlawful for any person to move a vehicle from any given parking space to another space on that block or any other block within a one (1) block radius in any direction from the original parking space, including both sides of the relevant streets, for the purpose ~~or~~ of securing additional parking privileges where the aggregate time that such vehicle is parked will be more than the maximum time indicated on such posted signs on the particular street or off-street parking lot.

(b) For the purpose of implementing the enforcement of parking restrictions on public streets and on off-street parking lots owned or controlled by the city, police officers of the city, or others who have been lawfully so

designated, are hereby authorized to place chalk marks on tires of all vehicles parked on public streets of the city or on off-street parking lots owned or controlled by the city. It shall be unlawful for any person to erase or obscure any chalk marks placed for such purposes on tires of any vehicle by police officers or others who have been lawfully so designated by the city. The fine to be imposed for erasing or obscuring any chalk marks shall be in the amount of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00). See section 33-167(13).

(c) The parking regulations of this chapter shall apply to vehicles parked or standing upon the streets of the city as well as off-street parking lots owned or controlled by the city, when such vehicles are parked or standing upon such streets or lots between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and ~~8:00 p.m. on Monday through Saturday, inclusive~~ 12:00 a.m. midnight seven days a week. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the days or hours of enforcement may be reduced if so noted on signs placed within the right of way or city operated parking lot by the city. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply on ~~Sundays and holidays,~~ as defined in Section 33-1 of this chapter.

Section 6. The Code of the City of Sarasota, Chapter 33, Traffic and Motor Vehicles; Article IV, Stopping, Standing, or Parking; Division 6, St. Armands Paid Parking Area; Sec. 33-178, Levy of parking fees and charges in St. Armands paid parking area, is hereby amended as follows: (This section applies to parking spaces within the St. Armands Paid Parking Area. There is a charge to park for all of the parking spaces within this designated area.) Additions to text are indicated by underline; deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

Sec. 33-178. - Levy of parking fees and charges in St. Armands paid parking area.

It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle or allow any vehicle to remain parked upon any individual parking space in the St. Armands paid parking area for a period of time longer than the time limit allowed pursuant to the payment made through the mechanical parking time indicator, parking meter, parking station or other device or procedure used for collecting parking fees and charges. This parking regulation within the St. Armands paid parking area shall apply to vehicles parked or standing upon any individual on-street parking space within said area when such vehicles are parked or standing thereon between the hours of ~~10:00 am and 8:00 am Monday through Saturday excluding city holidays~~

8:00 a.m. and 12:00 a.m. midnight seven days a week. However, the fees shall be levied for the public garage parking spaces and for surface lot parking spaces ~~twenty-four (24) hours per day on Monday through Saturday.~~ seven days a week. Operators of vehicles seeking to park within the St. Armands paid parking area shall timely deposit payment as required by section 33-136 above. Said fees shall be in the amount of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per hour for core parking spaces; one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per hour for perimeter parking spaces; and one dollar (\$1.00) per hour for surface lot parking spaces. For public garage parking spaces, the first hour shall be free parking, the charge for the second hour (i.e. from the first hour to end of the second hour) shall be two dollars (\$2.00) and for each hour thereafter, the charge shall be one dollar (\$1.00) per hour, or part thereof, up to a maximum of twenty-three dollars (\$23.00) per day. Alternatively, the applicable fees and charges within the St. Armands paid parking area may be as required for parking permits, valet parking or flat fees paid for special events. As such, the St. Armands paid parking area fees and charges shall include permit fees for parking permits issued pursuant to section 33-151 above, for parking within the St. Armands paid parking area; fees and charges levied pursuant to the City of Sarasota Valet Parking Ordinance set forth in sections 33-120 through 33-125, above, relating to valet parking provided within the St. Armands paid parking area, and flat fees paid for parking in the St. Armands paid parking area for special events.

Section 7. The Code of the City of Sarasota, Chapter 33, Traffic and Motor Vehicles; Article IV, Stopping, Standing, or Parking; Division 4, Fines for Parking; Sec. 33-167, Fine Schedule, is hereby amended as follows: Additions to text are indicated by underline; deletions by ~~strikeout~~.

Sec. 33-167. - Fine schedule

The parking violations set forth in this Article IV and the fines payable in each instance, are as set forth opposite each listed violation [Fines paid within twenty-four (24) hours of the violation date and time shall be reduced by five dollars (\$5.00)]:

- (1) Overtime parking not in excess of one (1) hour ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00
- (2) Overtime parking in excess of one (1) hour ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00
- (3) Overtime parking in excess of two (2) hours ~~\$25.00~~ \$30.00

- (4) Parking in restricted areas ~~\$35.00~~ \$50.00
- (5) Double parking ~~\$30.00~~ \$35.00
- (6) Parking in wrong direction ~~\$35.00~~ \$50.00
- (7) Illegal parking in alley ~~\$35.00~~ \$40.00
- (8) Illegal parking in designated fire/emergency lane . . ~~\$35.00~~ \$50.00
- (9) Any other offense regulated or controlled by this chapter, the provisions of this Code or ordinances of the city in regard to the parking of motor vehicles on the streets of the city and on the parking lots within the city . . ~~\$35.00~~ \$50.00
- (10) In addition to the parking fine otherwise set forth within this section 33-167, habitual parking violators receiving three (3) or more tickets for parking violations described in this article within any 60-day period, for each citation above three (3) issued to the same violator within any 60-day period ~~\$35.00~~ \$40.00
- (11) *Delinquency fees.* Fines not paid within fourteen (14) days of the date and time noted on the citation for parking violation shall be assessed an initial ~~fifteen dollar (\$15.00)~~ twenty dollar (\$20.00) delinquency fee. Two additional delinquency fees of ~~fifteen dollars (\$15.00)~~ twenty dollars (\$20.00) each shall be assessed for every additional thirty (30) days such parking fine and delinquency fee(s) remains unpaid (maximum of ~~\$45.00~~ \$60.00).
- (12) Illegal parking in spaces provided by governmental or non-governmental entities for disabled persons whether marked by the internationally accepted wheelchair symbol, the caption "PARKING BY DISABLED PERMIT ONLY" or by both such symbol and caption \$250.00

(13) Erasing or obscuring any chalk marks placed upon tires of any vehicle by police officers or others who have been lawfully ~~so~~-designated with authority to do so by the city \$250.00

(14) Illegal parking in spaces designated for charging of an electric vehicle (EV) ~~\$35.00~~ \$40.00

Section 8. Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 9. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Commission that the sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance shall be deemed severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section of this Ordinance is declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by the valid judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, or sections hereof.

Section 9. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon second reading.

PASSED on first reading by title only, after posting for public viewing at City Hall for at least three (3) days prior to first reading, as authorized by Article IV, Section 2, Charter of the City of Sarasota, Florida this ____ day of _____, 2026.

PASSED on second reading and finally adopted this ____ day of _____, 2026.

CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA

Debbie Trice, Mayor

ATTEST:

Shayla Griggs
City Auditor and Clerk

- ____ Mayor Debbie Trice
- ____ Vice Mayor Kathy Kelley Ohlrich
- ____ Commissioner Jen Ahearn-Koch
- ____ Commissioner Liz Alpert
- ____ Commissioner Kyle Scott Battie



**CITY OF SARASOTA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the **CITY COMMISSION** of the City of Sarasota, Florida will meet on **Monday, May 4, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** in the Commission Chambers, City Hall, 1565 First Street, Sarasota, Florida. **Starting at 9:00 a.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, the Commission will open the scheduled Public Hearings in the order they appear on the agenda.** The Commission will recess for lunch at approximately 12:00 p.m. The following Ordinance will be considered at the above scheduled meeting:

ORDINANCE NO. 26-5590

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA; CHAPTER 33, TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES; ARTICLE IV, STOPPING, STANDING, OR PARKING; TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HOURS DURING WHICH PAID PARKING IS IN EFFECT FOR ON-STREET PARKING SPACES, FOR SURFACE PARKING LOTS AND FOR CITY PARKING GARAGES AS MORE FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN; AND TO FURTHER INCREASE FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF CITY PARKING REGULATIONS AS MORE FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE PARTS HEREOF; REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT PROVIDING FOR READING BY TITLE ONLY; AND FOR PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Said proposed Ordinance is on file in the Office of the City Auditor and Clerk at City Hall. If you wish to obtain a copy, please call (941) 263-6222 between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. If required, the Business Impact Estimate as required by Florida Statutes 166.041(4)(a) can be found on the city's Online Public Notice Bulletin Board at www.sarasotafl.gov/government/city-auditor-and-clerk/meeting-notice-board.

Interested persons are welcome to attend and may register to speak in respect to the above-proposed ordinance. Individuals who prefer to participate remotely in the City Commission meeting may obtain instructions to participate via zoom by emailing clerk@sarasotafl.gov with your request no later than the **deadline of 5:00 pm on Friday, May 1, 2026**. Individuals may provide written comments for agenda items which allow citizens input up until 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting by utilizing the eComments link next to the published agenda on the [Upcoming Events](#) webpage accessible through the City of Sarasota website by clicking on "Meetings/Agendas/Video from the main page."

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the board, agency, or commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings, and, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in such public hearing should contact the City of Sarasota ADA Coordinator at (941) 263-6269 at least two (2) business days prior to the date of the public hearing as to the nature of the aid and/or service desired. Reasonable auxiliary aids and services will be made available to qualified disabled individuals to the extent that no undue financial or administrative burden results. For the benefit of individuals utilizing hearing aids with a T-coil, the City Commission Chambers and SRQ Media Studio are outfitted with a Hearing Induction Loop for enhanced hearing assistance.

CITY OF SARASOTA

By: Shayla Griggs
City Auditor and Clerk

Legal Date: April 24, 2026



Business Impact Estimate

Pursuant to Section 166.041(4), Florida Statutes, this Business Impact Estimate is prepared and included in the agenda packet for the proposed ordinance and will be posted on the City of Sarasota's website at the time notice of the ordinance is published.

As enacted through Chapter 2023-309, Laws of Florida (SB 170), effective October 1, 2023, local governments are required to prepare a Business Impact Estimate prior to the adoption of certain ordinances, subject to statutory exemptions. The requirement is intended to provide transparency regarding the potential economic impacts of proposed local regulations and to afford additional procedural rights in the event of legal challenge.

Effective October 1, 2024, Chapter 2024-158, Laws of Florida (SB 1628), further amends Section 166.041(4), Florida Statutes, eliminating the exemption previously applicable to ordinances adopting comprehensive plan amendments or land development regulations initiated by a municipality or county.

Proposed Ordinance – Title / Reference

ORDINANCE NO. 26-5590 - AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA, FLORIDA AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF SARASOTA; CHAPTER 33, TRAFFIC AND MOTOR VEHICLES; ARTICLE IV, STOPPING, STANDING, OR PARKING; TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF HOURS DURING WHICH PAID PARKING IS IN EFFECT FOR ON-STREET PARKING SPACES, FOR SURFACE PARKING LOTS AND FOR CITY PARKING GARAGES AS MORE FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN; AND TO FURTHER INCREASE FINES FOR VIOLATIONS OF CITY PARKING REGULATIONS AS MORE FULLY SET FORTH HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY OF THE PARTS HEREOF; REPEALING ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT PROVIDING FOR READING BY TITLE ONLY; AND FOR PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

1. **Summary of the Proposed Ordinance (must include a statement of the public purpose, such as service the public health, safety, morals, and welfare).**

The proposed ordinance amends Chapter 33 of the City Code to extend the hours during which paid parking is enforced in on-street spaces, surface parking lots, and City-operated parking garages. The ordinance also increases fines associated with parking violations.

The public purpose of the ordinance is to improve parking turnover and availability, enhance access for residents, visitors, and businesses, support economic activity in commercial areas, and ensure efficient management of limited public parking resources. The ordinance further promotes public health, safety, and welfare by encouraging compliance with parking regulations and reducing congestion.

2. **An estimate of the direct economic impact of the proposed ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in the City of Sarasota if any:**

a. **An estimate of direct compliance costs that businesses may reasonably incur;**

The ordinance is not expected to impose direct compliance costs on businesses, as it does not require physical modifications, operational restructuring, or permitting changes.

However, businesses may experience indirect economic effects, including increased parking costs for employees and customers due to extended paid parking hours, potential adjustments to employee parking arrangements or subsidies, and possible sensitivity to increased parking duration charges.

b. Any new charge or fee imposed by the proposed ordinance or for which businesses will be financially responsible; and

The ordinance does not impose new fees directly on businesses. However, businesses, their employees, and customers may experience increased parking costs as a result of extended paid parking hours, and higher fines may lead to increased penalties for noncompliance.

Associated impacts include:

- Extended paid parking hours, which may increase parking costs for employees and customers
- Increased citation fines, including a proposed \$5 increase per violation
- An estimated \$280,750 in additional annual revenue from citation increases

c. An estimate of the City of Sarasota regulatory costs, including estimated revenues from any new charges or fees to cover such costs.

The City may incur administrative and operational costs associated with updates to signage, enforcement schedules, and public communication. These costs are anticipated to be offset, in whole or in part, by increased parking revenues generated through extended hours of operation and higher citation fines. The ordinance is not expected to require significant additional staffing or expansion of regulatory infrastructure.

Based on the City's parking analysis:

- Extended paid parking hours are projected to generate approximately \$2.72 million in additional annual transient parking revenue
- Increased citation fines are projected to generate approximately \$280,750 annually

Under the current rate structure, the City's parking system is operating at a deficit, with continued negative net operating income projected in future fiscal years. The proposed changes are intended to offset rising operational and capital costs, improve long-term financial sustainability, and reduce reliance on General Fund support. Overall, administrative costs are expected to remain modest and offset by the anticipated increase in revenues.

3. Good faith estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the proposed Ordinance

A substantial number of businesses are likely to be affected, particularly those located in areas served by on-street parking, surface lots, and City-operated parking garages, including Downtown Sarasota, St. Armands Circle, and other commercial districts. These businesses include retail, restaurant, office, and service-based establishments that rely on customer and employee parking.

While the exact number of impacted businesses cannot be readily quantified, the ordinance is expected to have a broad, citywide impact that is primarily indirect in nature on businesses operating within regulated parking areas.

4. Additional information the governing body deems useful (if any):

The ordinance is intended to improve parking availability and turnover, which may have a positive long-term impact on business activity by increasing customer access. While there may be short-term adjustments for businesses, employees, and patrons, the overall goal is to create a more efficient and accessible parking system that supports economic vitality.

The City's parking analysis indicates that, without adjustments, parking revenues are insufficient to cover increasing operational and capital costs. The City Commission reviewed this proposal on March 23, 2026.

This ordinance is generally applicable and applies to all users of the City's parking system, including residents, visitors, and businesses, and is not limited solely to businesses.



ORDINANCE NO. 26-5590

Ordinance to extend paid parking hours
and to further increase fines for parking
violations

May 4, 2026



- On March 23, 2026, Parking Division gave a presentation to the City Commission regarding a rate analysis of the paid parking program
- Made three recommendations to increase revenues to support parking expenses and capital improvement projects
- Commission approved two of the recommendations
- Increase in citation fines and extension of paid parking hours
- Requires amendments and changes to the Code of the City of Sarasota Chapter 33, Traffic and Motor Vehicles



RECOMMENDATION #1 CITATION FEE INCREASE

- Average of 50k citations paid annually
- Proposed \$5 standard increase
- Current rates are \$25, \$30, and \$35
- New rates would be \$30, \$35, and \$40
- **\$280,750** annual revenue increase





RECOMMENDATION #3 OPTION 2 INCREASED HOURS WITH EXISTING RATES

Location	# of Spaces	Rate Structure	Days per Week	Operating Hours	Avg. Daily Occupancy	Paid Parking Model
On-street	1000	\$1.50/hr.	7	8AM-12AM (16 hrs. total)	70%	\$4,151,280
On-street Judicial District	100	\$1.00/hr.	7	8AM-12AM (16 hrs. total)	90%	\$355,824
Garages (M-TH)	739	\$0 (1 st hr.) \$2 (2 nd hr.) \$1 (ea additional hr.)	4	24 hours	55%	\$1,345,187
Garages (F-Sun)	739	\$0 (1 st hr.) \$2 (2 nd hr.) \$1 (ea additional hr.)	3	24 hours	55%	\$974,493
Surface Lots	351	\$1.00/hr.	7	24 hours	30%	\$624,471

\$ 7,451,355	Total
\$2,720,653	Increase



SUMMARY OF PROJECTED REVENUES AND EXPENSES WITH EXTENDED HOURS

▪ <i>Increased Transient Fees</i>		\$2,720,653	\$2,802,273	\$2,886,341	\$2,972,931	\$3,062,119
▪ <i>Increased Citation fees</i>		\$280,750	\$289,173	\$297,848	\$306,783	\$315,987
▪ New Annual Revenues	\$6,287,790	\$9,477,827	\$9,762,162	\$10,055,027	\$10,356,678	\$10,667,378
▪ COMBINED EXPENDITURES	\$6,558,574	\$8,803,030	\$9,496,716	\$8,554,661	\$9,060,720	\$9,229,785
▪ Net Operating Income	\$(270,784)	\$674,797	\$265,446	\$1,500,366	\$1,295,958	\$1,437,593



SEC. 33-1. - DEFINITIONS

~~in~~
~~addition to Sundays, mean the following days: to be declared~~
~~holidays; New Year's Day, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day,~~
~~Washington's Birthday, President's Day, Good Friday Afternoon,~~
~~National Memorial Day, Juneteenth, Independence Day, Labor~~
~~Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.~~



SEC. 33-131. - DEFINITIONS

_____ of sufficient length and width to accommodate a vehicle to be parked, as shall be specified and marked off by the direction of the city manager.



SEC. 33-131. – DEFINITIONS - CONTINUED

_____ whether such vehicle is occupied or not, and whether such vehicle is accompanied by an operator or not.



SEC. 33-135. - MAXIMUM PARKING TIME; NOTICE; HOURS OF OPERATION; APPLICABILITY

~~— a parking meter or parking pay station is required. Notice to the public shall be given by appropriate signs setting forth the length of time for which parking is permitted and the conditions thereof. Such signs may be posted upon the parking meter stand, pay station or in the immediate vicinity. It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle or allow any vehicle to remain parked in any parking space for which the deposit of payment in a parking meter or parking pay station is required for a period of time longer than the time limit allowed pursuant to the payment made through the mechanical parking time indicator, parking meter, parking pay station or other device or procedure used for collecting parking fees and charges.~~

SEC. 33-136. - DUTY OF OPERATORS OF VEHICLES TO DEPOSIT PAYMENT; PARKING BEYOND TIME FIXED FOR SUCH VEHICLE



municipal parking lot, or municipal parking garage in which such parking space is located. If the vehicle shall remain parked in any such parking space beyond the parking time limit allowed, the parking meter shall display a sign showing illegal parking and, in such event, such vehicle shall be considered as parked overtime.

SEC. 33-118. - PARKING IN EXCESS OF POSTED TIME LIMITS PROHIBITED.



— **of** securing additional parking privileges where the aggregate time that such vehicle is parked will be more than the maximum time indicated on such posted signs on the particular street or off-street parking lot.



SEC. 33-118. - PARKING IN EXCESS OF POSTED TIME LIMITS PROHIBITED - CONTINUED



SEC. 33-118. - PARKING IN EXCESS OF POSTED TIME LIMITS PROHIBITED - CONTINUED

_____ **12:00**
a.m. midnight seven days a week. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the days or hours of enforcement may be reduced if so noted on signs placed within the right of way or city operated parking lot by the city. The provisions of this chapter shall not apply on ~~Sundays and holidays,~~ **as defined in Section 33-1 of this chapter.**

SEC. 33-167. - FINE SCHEDULE



- _____ \$30.00
- _____ \$30.00
- _____ \$30.00
- _____ \$50.00
- _____ \$35.00
- _____ \$50.00
- _____ \$40.00
- _____ \$50.00

- _____ \$50.00



SEC. 33-167. - FINE SCHEDULE - CONTINUED

_____ \$40.00

~~dollar (\$15.00)~~ twenty dollar (\$20.00) delinquency fee. Two additional delinquency fees of ~~fifteen dollars (\$15.00)~~ twenty dollars (\$20.00) each shall be assessed for every additional thirty (30) days such parking fine and delinquency fee(s) remains unpaid (maximum of ~~\$45.00~~ \$60.00).

_____, the caption "PARKING BY DISABLED PERMIT ONLY" or by both such symbol and caption \$250.00



**IMPLEMENTATION DATE
JUNE 1, 2026**

Questions or Comments?