



MIAMI BEACH

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

NO. LTC# 112-2007

LETTER TO COMMISSION

RECEIVED
2007 MAY 14 PM 2:28
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

TO: Mayor David Dermer and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager

DATE: May 14, 2007

SUBJECT: **FLAMINGO PARK/RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMIT ZONE TWO PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS AND MEETING NOTICE**

On April 24, 2007, the Parking and Parks/Recreation Departments sent a notice to Residential Zone Two/Flamingo Park permit holders advising them that a higher level of enforcement activity for the two parking lots that service Flamingo Park would begin. The enforcement actions were for existing regulations in the parking lots that, to date, have not been actively enforced.

The notice advised resident permit holders that due to an increasing number of parking conflicts between permit holders and park users, an established time limit of 7 a.m. use of the Flamingo lots by permit holders was going to be enforced. Until now, permit holders have had the ability to use the Flamingo lots over night without the need to move their car by 7 a.m. The 7 a.m. time limit was set in 1999 when resident permit holders were allowed the night time use of the parking lots.

Recently an increasing numbers of parking conflicts has been experienced between individuals coming early to use Flamingo Park and by Zone 2/3 residential permit holders that have remained in the parking lots past the 7 a.m. time limit. This parking conflict is what prompted the first notice to Zone 2/3 residential permit holders about a change in enforcement policy.

As a result of this notice, many, if not all of you have received inquiries, comments, and/or complaints from Residential Zone Two/Flamingo Park permit holders regarding this issue.

The Parks and Parking Departments have revisited the enforcement policy to see if there was a way to develop a more tailored approach that would address the concerns of both resident permit holders and park users.

In light of the need to have parking available for park users and still to provide whatever parking relief we can for the residential Zone 2/3 permit holders, the Parks and the Parking Departments have developed a plan that will allow for specifically signed and designated areas of the two parking lots to be used past 7:00 a.m. by the residential permit holders. It is our hope that this compromise enforcement position will address most of the concerns of both the park users and of the residential permit holders. It is obviously not a perfect

solution because the City is clearly short of parking places in this particular zone. The new plan makes a better effort to respect the parking needs of both of our important user groups, the residential permit holders and park users.

The attached notice will be mailed to all permit holders providing them more information, including a historical perspective; current challenges; program enhancements; enforcement efforts for residential parking programs; and notice of a community meeting. The community meeting notice invites permit holders to participate in a discussion regarding residential parking, park use, and the Flamingo Park parking facilities. The community meeting will take place at 6:00 P.M. on Monday, June 4, 2007 at the Botanic Gardens. The meeting will be publicly noticed so that any interested Commissioners may attend.

While we believe that the revised program will address most concerns, the Community meeting will be available to add any necessary clarification or address other unforeseen issues.

Please feel free to call me or Assistant City Manager Robert Middaugh if you have any further questions.

JMG/RCM/SF

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MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

PARKING DEPARTMENT

Tel: 305.673.7505, Fax: 305.673.7066

PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS AND MEETING NOTICE!

Dear Zone Two 2 - Flamingo Park & Zone Three – Michigan/Lenox Permit Holder(s):

On April 24, 2007, a notice was sent to all Zone 2 Flamingo Park and Zone 3 Michigan/Lenox Permit Holders (Zone 2/3), notifying each of the permit holders that the Parking Department would begin to enforce existing parking restrictions for the two parking lots that are in and service the Flamingo Park. The notice was prompted by an increasing number of parking conflicts between park users and Zone 2/3 permit holders. This letter caused a great deal of confusion and concern within the Zone that has prompted the City to do a more detailed review of the enforcement effort to assess if a less stringent approach might be possible.

In order to minimize parking conflicts while providing parking available for park users and still provide whatever parking relief we can for the residential Zone 2/3 permit holders, the Parks and the Parking Departments have developed a revised parking plan. The plan will allow for specifically signed and designated areas of the two parking lots to be used past 7:00 a.m. by the residential permit holders rather than requiring residents to leave by 7:00 a.m.. It is our hope that this compromise enforcement position will address most of the concerns of both the park users and of the residential permit holders. It is obviously not a perfect solution because the City is clearly short of parking places in this particular zone. The new plan makes a better effort to respect the parking needs of both of our important user groups, the residential permit holders and park users.

In the new plan, Zone 2/3 Permits will continue to be honored daily from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. with the following enhancements:

- The two westernmost parking bays in the 11th Street and Jefferson Ave Parking Lot (PAL Lot) will honor residential Zone 2/3 permits until 9 a.m..
- The northernmost parking bay in the 15th Street and Michigan Ave Parking Lot (Softball Field Lot) will honor residential Zone 2/3 permits until 9 a.m..
- Uniquely identifying signs with the 9 a.m. extended hours will be posted in these areas and at the entrance of both lots for way finding purposes.

If you visit the park during non-residential hours, you must obtain a validated parking ticket from the Parks Attendant located at the Tennis Center or Flamingo Pool. There is a three (3) hour maximum. **Please note: If you have a residential permit and do not have a validated parking ticket, your vehicle may be subject to being cited and impounded.** Unfortunately, this procedure was a necessary feature of the plan as many permit holders remain in the lots after the 7 a.m. restriction claiming use of the park as the reason for remaining in the lot.

Clearly, permit holders should enjoy the use of the Flamingo Park facilities as well as have access to the parking lot; however, said use is contingent upon legitimate use of the park during park hours. The ticket validation and three (3) hour time limit is intended for legitimate use of the park and not as a loophole to extend the 7 a.m. or 9 a.m. restriction for permit holder use. In addition, a ten (10) minute grace period is being instituted in the 15th Street and Michigan Avenue (Softball Field) Parking Lot in order to allow ample travel time for ticket validations. If a citation is issued within this period a RAD (Request for Administrative Dismissal) Form may be submitted for consideration for dismissal.

In order to help ensure that Zone 2/3 spaces are appropriately used and available to permit holders, parking enforcement officers are routinely deployed to all zones with special emphasis on known problem areas, such as Zone 2/3. Moreover, residential zone permit holders may avail themselves to the 24/7 parking enforcement hotline (305) 673.9453 and may place requests for enforcement services of parking (residential zone) violations.

Furthermore, The Parking Department will be notifying park users that there is no restriction for on-street parking on weekdays from 7a.m. to 6 p.m. in the vicinity of Flamingo Park. This will hopefully mitigate some of the demand for parking lot use.

The Flamingo Park parking lots are intended to serve park users during park hours (7 a.m. /9 a.m. - 10 p.m.). The City fully recognizes that parking is challenging in the Zone 2/3 area and our new plan tries to provide the most parking relief possible for our permit holders while still serving the original purpose of the lots, parks parking.

The City will host a Community Meeting to discuss the Flamingo Park Parking Lot and Residential Zone Two permit holder policy at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 4, 2007, at the Miami Beach Botanical Gardens, Banyon Tree Room, located at 2000 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida. The meeting will be to address any questions or concerns about our enforcement policy that may still be confusing or unclear.

If you have any additional questions or concerns regarding parking in the Flamingo Park, please do not hesitate to contact Flamingo Park at (305) 673-7766 or Parking at (305) 673-7000, extension 6200. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding!


**CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
PARKING
DEPARTMENT**
Miami Beach, Florida

175001

TIME IN: _____
 EXPIRATION TIME: _____
 AMOUNT PAID: _____

PARK AND LOCK
RATES AND HOURS POSTED

TIME IN: _____
 EXPIRATION TIME: _____
 AMOUNT PAID: _____

175001


**CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
PARKING
DEPARTMENT**
Miami Beach, Florida

| JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUN |
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Sample Parking Ticket