

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE

ORDINANCE 2021-__

An ordinance whereby the City Council amends the City of Hyattsville Code to decrease the maximum penalty for nonpayment of parking fines to no more than one- and one-half times the value of the original fine after thirty days of nonpayment.

WHEREAS, the Maryland Code, Transportation Article, Section 26-301(b) authorizes political subdivisions of the State to adopt ordinances that regulate the parking of vehicles and to issue citations for violations of such ordinances; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Code, Transportation Article, Section 26-303(a) requires that a person who receives a citation to either pay for the parking violation directly to the political subdivision serving the citation or elect to stand trial for the violation; and

WHEREAS, Section 114-2 of the City of Hyattsville Code permits the Mayor and Council to adopt regulations regarding vehicles and traffic within the City, as necessary, by ordinance, resolution or motion adopted in accordance with law; and

WHEREAS, currently, under the City of Hyattsville Code, nonpayment of a parking fine within fifteen (15) days results in the doubling of the fine, and the continued nonpayment for an additional fifteen (15) days results, again, in the doubling of the fine, totaling in an amount four (4) times greater than the original fine after thirty (30) days of nonpayment; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes that a penalty for nonpayment of parking fines that is less severe may compel payment of fines in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes that any change to the Code may require the negotiation of amendments to any City parking agreement affected by this change; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the City Council of the City of Hyattsville in regular session assembled that provisions of the City Code are hereby amended as follows:

1 in this subsection 114-73(A). Without such election within ~~fifteen (15)~~ thirty (30) days, the fine
2 shall be ~~seventy dollars (\$70.00)~~ fifty-two dollars and fifty cents (\$52.50).

3 **AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED** that a fair summary of this ordinance shall
4 forthwith be published twice in a newspaper having general circulation in the City and otherwise
5 be made available to the public;

6 **AND BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Administrator, or his designee, is authorized to
7 negotiate amendments to any agreements impacted by this adjustment provided that such
8 negotiations do not modify the existing base fee/fine schedule.

9 **INTRODUCED** by the City Council of the City of Hyattsville, Maryland, at a regular
10 public meeting on _____, 2021.

11 **ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Hyattsville, Maryland, at a regular public
12 meeting on _____, 2021.

Adopted: _____

Attest: _____
Laura Reams, City Clerk

Kevin Ward, Interim Mayor

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14 **Effective Date: July 1, 2021**