

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PARKING METER WAIVER FOR CURBSIDE SERVICE
AT THE AMES PUBLIC LIBRARY**

BACKGROUND:

The Ames Public Library is shifting its service model from in-lobby pick-up to curbside pick-up to encourage a safe way for customers get their books and other materials during the COVID-19 pandemic. Customers can park, call or send a text request, and library staff will retrieve the held items and place them in the customer's vehicle.

In order to safely facilitate the pick-up, the Library has had three designated parking spots (70.C, 71.C, and 72.C) on Douglas Avenue in front of the library since May 18, 2020. Municipal Code Section 18.5(5) authorizes the City Manager to designate any parking spaces adjacent City buildings as "visitor" spaces. The request has been granted, and signage made to designate the 3 spots for curbside pick-up retroactive to October 2, 2020.

City Council is being asked to approve the waiving of parking meter fees during the time in which the Library is offering curbside pick-up service. The time frame in which the City Manager authorized the designation of the three parking spots is October 2, 2020 through January 31, 2021, Sunday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm. This request calculates into a \$675 loss to the parking meter fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the waiver for parking meter fees for 3 designated spots on Douglas Avenue in front of the Library (70.C, 71.C, and 72.C) retroactive to October 2, 2020 through January 31, 2021, Sunday through Saturday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm.
2. Do not approve the request.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

A fast, convenient curbside pick-up with no appointments needed will allow library customers to safely access library materials. The library currently processes

approximately 800 holds items a day providing a much-needed service for Ames residents.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the waiver of parking meter fees for the time frame outlined above.