



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

May 6, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Submitted By: Rene Guerrero, Interim Public Works Director

SUBJECT: RETROACTIVE APPROVAL OF FREE PARKING AT DOWNTOWN METROLINK STATION AND ADJACENT VPD PARKING LOTS IN HONOR OF EARTH DAY

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council retroactively authorize free parking at the Downtown Metrolink station and adjacent Vehicle Parking District (VPD) lots in honor of Earth Day, which was April 22, 2019.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

In celebration of Earth Day, which occurred April 22, 2019, Metrolink offered free train rides for the entire day. It was requested of the City of Pomona to not charge for parking on that day, and the City complied. Authorization for that request needed to be approved by Council but staff was not able to prepare the staff report in time to be included in the April 15, 2019, City Council agenda. To accommodate community participation in Earth Day fees were not charged and staff recommends that Council retroactively authorize free parking at the Downtown Metrolink station and adjacent VPD lots for 2019 Earth Day.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City of Pomona charges \$2.00 per day to park in the adjacent VPD parking lots 5, 10, and 12. Within these lots, there are approximately 375 spaces total. The potential fiscal impact to the City was \$750 in Fund 230.

DISCUSSION:

The City received a request from Metrolink to waive VPD commuter daily parking fees on Earth Day, April 22, 2019. The City Council is being asked to retroactively waive VPD daily parking fees in Lots 5, 10 and 12 in coordination with Metrolink in support of Earth Day.

On April 1, 2019, the Metrolink Board of Directors voted to offer free train rides in support of

Earth Day to encourage more people to utilize mass transit and leave their cars at home. This minimizes the environmental footprint by reducing carbon emissions and vehicular traffic.

According to Metrolink, if 1,000 people give up their cars and ride Metrolink on Earth Day, they would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 23,472 pounds, which is the equivalent of the carbon sequestered by a 12-acre forest, the size of 10 football fields.

Earth Day is an international event held every year to recognize and demonstrate support for environmental protection. Earth Day is observed in 193 countries and has been celebrated since 1970.