



CITY OF DECATUR ILLINOIS

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DECATUR, ILLINOIS 62523-1196

PRESS RELEASE – PARKING AMNESTY PROGRAM DRAWS TO A CLOSE

May 22, 2020—The city of Decatur announces that the City Council’s parking amnesty program will end on Monday, June 15, 2020. The program was originally set to end on April 30 but was extended for 45 additional days due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Parking Amnesty Program allowed persons with delinquent parking tickets to pay them off without having to pay late fees and penalties associated with the delinquency. The program began on February 1st and has resulted in back payments of less than \$20,000. This is substantially below staff’s initial estimates. During the amnesty period, the “booting” of vehicles for delinquent tickets was temporarily suspended. The city contacted almost 3500 persons with delinquent and unpaid parking tickets encouraging them to participate in the parking amnesty program.

After June 15, the city will resume vehicle “booting” and will begin enforcement of all outstanding tickets that are less than five (5) years old. Late fees and penalties will remain on the accounts of delinquent ticket holders after June 15. Late fees and penalties can still be avoided if delinquent ticket holders contact City Licensing to request and make payment arrangements before the close of business on June 15. Payment arrangements can be entered into between the delinquent ticket holder and the City, provided delinquent tickets are paid in full by August 31, 2020.

The city’s Parking Amnesty Program is separate from decisions made by the city to temporarily suspend enforcement of selected parking restrictions in Decatur’s central business district. Due to COVID-19 the city has stopped enforcing 30-minute, 1-hour, 2-hour and 3-hour parking zones (while still enforcing no-parking zones, loading zones, designated permit parking zones, handicapped parking and various other illegal parking violations). Resumption of enforcement of 30-minute, 1-hour, 2-hour and 3-hour parking zones will begin later this summer on a date yet to be determined.

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