



Parking Citation Fine Structure and Adjudication Process

Public Works Department
Infrastructure, Planning, and Sustainability Committee
June 10, 2026

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Overview

Presentation type:

- Information Only

Purpose:

- Presenting an overview of the parking citation adjudication process, enforcement program pillars, current challenges and opportunities to improve compliance and enhance the adjudication process.

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ENFORCEMENT PILLARS



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Parking Technical Advisory Group (PTAG) Six-Month Review Process

A structured review to improve compliance, reduce friction in the citation and appeals process, and deliver a fair, efficient, data-informed enforcement program.



GOAL: Develop recommendations to drive implementation of updated fine schedule, payment incentives and penalties, and a revised adjudication process.

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KEY FINDINGS

Time-Limit Compliance:
Low Levels of Compliance in Time-Limited Areas

▶ **Repeat Violators:**
831 vehicles account for 27% of citations

▶ **Unpaid Citations:**
49% of citations unpaid after one year

▶ **No City Input in Appeals:**
80% of citations dismissed/reduced

REPEAT VIOLATORS

831 vehicles

account for 27% of all citations

UNPAID CITATIONS

49%

of citations remain unpaid after one year

NO CITY INPUT — APPEALS

80%

of appealed citations dismissed or reduced

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GOAL #1 Improve Compliance with Parking Regulations

OBJECTIVE

Deploy tools to drive compliance with posted regulations to maintain access for priority users.

◎ PERFORMANCE TARGET

Reduce overstay and non-payment violations to 10% or less.

STRATEGY 1A

Maintain Use of Warnings

Continue using warnings as a first-contact compliance tool, allowing officers discretion for first-time or ambiguous violations.

STRATEGY 1B

Discourage Repeat Violations

Drivers with five or more violations within a 180-day period receive escalated fine to deter scofflaw behavior.

STRATEGY 1C

Standardize Fines

Codify a revised fine schedule organized by violation category, ensuring consistent and equitable enforcement citywide.

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GOAL #2 Streamline Citation Collections and Appeals Process

OBJECTIVE

Create a cost-effective, flexible, and customer-focused collections and appeals process while ensuring citations effectively incentivize compliance

© PERFORMANCE TARGET

Reduce overdue unpaid citations to 25% or less.

STRATEGY 2A

Reestablish Collection Agency Contract & WA Department Of Licensing (DOL) Restrictions

Re-engage a third-party collection agency and restore Washington DOL license plate restrictions for chronic non-payers.

STRATEGY 2B

Improve Awareness of Appeals Process and Penalties

Launch targeted communications to increase public knowledge of how to appeal citations, late-payment fines, options to low-income residents and how to address multiple outstanding citations.

STRATEGY 2C

Expand Citation Payment Options

Enable immediate payment upon citation receipt via mobile app, web portal, and contactless kiosk to reduce delinquency rates.

STRATEGY 2D

Streamline Collections / Appeals

Introduce an administrative review process so minor disputes are resolved before escalating to Municipal Court, reducing costs.

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Next Steps

Date	Step
June 4, 2026	PTAG FINALIZED RECOMMENDATION
June 10, 2026	IPS Presentation
September 2026	IPS Presentation – Code Updates
December 2026	City Council Consideration
January 1, 2027	Ordinance Effective Date

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