

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE June 12, 2024

TO Honorable Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

SUBJECT **Draft City Ordinance to Require Valid Vehicle Registration for On-street Parking**

The Department of Transportation receives numerous complaints regarding parked motor vehicles on public streets with expired registrations, expired temporary paper plates, or no license plates. Upon investigation, staff determined many of the vehicles are legally parked but are being left on the public street for repair and/or resale purposes. These activities lead to discarded vehicle parts and containers being left in and along roadway. In addition, various vehicle fluids are being released on to the street and may flow into storm drains. These vehicles also take up valuable curb space which could be used by nearby residents.

Current City parking ordinances do not cover these situations, thus necessitating the development of a new ordinance to cover this gap. To address this issue, a City ordinance requiring a motor vehicle to have a valid registration and license plates to be parked on a public street is being proposed. Attached is the proposed draft ordinance. The committee's input and support are requested so the draft ordinance can be presented to full City Council for potential adoption. Addressing this gap will have a positive impact on public safety, transportation operations, environmental quality, and overall quality of life.

If you have any questions or concerns prior to the briefing, please contact Ghassan "Gus" Khankarli, Ph.D. P.E., PMP, CLTD, Director of the Department of Transportation, at [ghassan.khankarli@dallas.gov](mailto:ghassan.khankarli@dallas.gov).

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Al-Ghafry'.

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, P.E.  
Assistant City Manager

[Attachment]

c: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager (I)  
Tammy Palomino, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Billerae Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Dominique Arits, Chief of Public Safety (I)  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager

Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager  
Donzell Gipson, Assistant City Manager (I)  
Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager (I)  
Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer  
Elizabeth Saab, Chief of Strategy, Engagement and Alignment (I)  
Directors and Assistant Directors

## ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

An ordinance amending Chapter 28, “Motor Vehicles and Traffic,” of the Dallas City Code by amending Section 28-103.9; adding a new Section 28-76.6; establishing an offense for having an expired vehicle registration, expired temporary license plate, or a vehicle that does not display a license plate; providing a penalty not to exceed \$500; providing a saving clause; providing a severability clause; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:

SECTION 1. That Division 1, “Generally,” of Article XI, “Stopping, Standing, and Parking Generally,” of Chapter 28, “Motor Vehicles and Traffic,” of the Dallas City Code is amended by adding a new Section 28-76.6, “Valid Vehicle Registration and Temporary License Plate Required; Display of License Plate,” to read as follows:

**“SEC. 28-76.6                    VALID VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND TEMPORARY  
LICENSE PLATE REQUIRED; DISPLAY OF LICENSE  
PLATE.**

(a) A person commits an offense if the person parks a motor vehicle on a public street, highway, or alley that displays a vehicle registration that has been expired for two months or longer. This subsection applies to a vehicle registration issued by any county, state, or country.

(b) A person commits an offense if the person parks a motor vehicle on a public street, highway, or alley that displays a temporary license plate that has been expired for 30 days or longer.

(c) Except for digital license plates governed by Subchapter B-1, Chapter 504, Texas Transportation Code, as amended, a person commits an offense if the person parks a motor vehicle on a public street, highway, or alley that does not display a rear license plate. This subsection applies to a damaged vehicle that prevents the display of a rear license plate.”

SECTION 2. That Subsection (a) of Section 28-130.9, “Fine Schedule; Other Fees,” of Division 7, “Administrative Adjudication of Parking Violations,” of Article XI, “Stopping, Standing, and Parking Generally,” of Chapter 28, “Motor Vehicles and Traffic,” of the Dallas City Code is amended to read as follows:

“(a) The following is the schedule of civil fines for parking violations under this chapter, Chapter 32, and Chapter 51A of this code that are made civil offenses under this division:

<b>Violation</b>	<b>Fine</b>
(1) Section 28-81.1(a)(2)(B) or (G)	\$110
(2) Section 28-159.1	\$50
(3) Section 28-76, 28-76.3, <u>28-76.6</u> , 28-81.1(a)(1), 28-81.1(a)(2)(C), (D), (E), or (F), 28-88, or 28-96	\$40
(4) Section 28-80, 28-81, 28-81.1(a)(2)(A), 28-82, 28-86, 28-87, 28-101, or 28-102	\$35
(5) Section 51A-4.301(d)(5)	\$50
(6) Any other parking violation	\$30”

SECTION 3. That a person violating a provision of this ordinance, upon conviction, is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.

SECTION 4. That Chapter 28 of the Dallas City Code shall remain in full force and effect, save and except as amended by this ordinance.

SECTION 5. That any act done or right vested or accrued, or any proceeding, suit, or prosecution had or commenced in any action before the amendment or repeal of any ordinance, or part thereof, shall not be affected or impaired by amendment or repeal of any ordinance, or part thereof, and shall be treated as still remaining in full force and effect for all intents and purposes as if the amended or repealed ordinance, or part thereof, had remained in force.

SECTION 6. That the terms and provisions of this ordinance are severable and are governed by Section 1-4 of Chapter 1 of the Dallas City Code, as amended.

SECTION 7. That this ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so ordained.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

TAMMY L. PALOMINO, City Attorney

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Assistant City Attorney

Passed \_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT