

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Jeff Stone

SUBMITTAL DATE: June 8, 2012

SUBJECT: Parking At Riverside County – Waived And Validated for Area Residents (PARC WAVAR)

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board of Supervisors directs EDA/Facilities Management to devise and implement a validated parking program at the County Administrative Center for those county residents who attend Board of Supervisors' meetings to testify and/or address the board.

BACKGROUND:

The Board of Supervisors has made county government more transparent and accessible by televising board meetings on various cable channels throughout the county or via the county's website. However, it can discourage public participation at board meetings if residents must also wrestle with very limited free parking.

The county has a finite number of time-limited free parking spaces at the County Administrative Center in Riverside. Because of insufficient number of these free spaces, and time restraints on these spaces, they may not be useful for citizens attending Board of Supervisors' meetings.

The public has been critical of the County Administrative Center parking policies that charge for parking to those simply wishing to attend and participate in Board of Supervisors' meetings. Many county residents travel great distances and at great expense just to attend these meetings to advocate on a county issue. In an effort to make county government even more accessible, this proposal seeks to establish an expanded free parking program for county residents wishing to attend Board of Supervisors' meetings and address the board.

Pope John Paul II once said: "Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought."

For these reasons, we ought to grant free parking in county parking areas for residents wishing to address the Board of Supervisors.


JEFF STONE
Supervisor – Third District

3.43