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Cease ticketing of parking by MPD officers

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Metropolitan Police Department to refrain from writing tickets for illegal parking, barring situations that compromise public safety.

Why: A recent effort by the MPD to assist DPW Parking Enforcement in this neighborhood has resulted in numerous improper parking tickets, issued to legally parked cars. This is more than a nuisance to residents, but also compromises the role of the MPD as the protector of the community.

MPD parking ticketing is inferior to that done by Parking Enforcement for three reasons.

* First, DPW takes photographs of ticketed vehicles and posts them on-line for confirmation of the violation; the MPD does not.

* Second, DPW tickets are produced by portable printers, and are clearly legible, whereas MPD tickets are hand-written and frequently illegible.

* Third, DPW Parking Enforcement personnel are familiar with the parking regulations, whereas the current incident in Mount Pleasant reveals that MPD officers are not. In late March and early April, at least nine tickets were written by MPD officers for legally parked cars, the officers being ill-informed about current parking laws.

This incident has not only harmed the reputation of the Metropolitan Police, but is contrary to the policy of Community Policing. MPD officers on patrol should be seen by residents as serving the community, protecting the residents of neighborhood from crime, rather than as policing the community, penalizing residents for minor parking violations.

Passed by 4 to 0 vote at the legally noticed, public meeting of ANC1D on July 21, 2015, with a quorum present. Voting "yes": Commissioners Hoey, McKay, Rivas, Griffiths. A quorum for this commission is three; four commissioners were present.