

ON-VEHICLE NOTICING OF UNPAID PARKING TICKETS



COURTESY NOTICES: A reminder that a vehicle has 3 tickets in collections.

Motorists with delinquent citations currently owe the City of Seattle more than \$52 million in outstanding parking fines.

Parking Enforcement Officers will use existing license plate reader technology to identify non-addressed or out-of-state vehicles with outstanding tickets.

Courtesy Notices will be placed on vehicles with three unpaid parking tickets. The notices encourage motorists to address unpaid tickets and alert drivers that after accruing four unpaid tickets, vehicles are subject to being booted with a wheel-locking device, regardless of if they are parked legally or illegally. Courtesy Notices help motorists avoid the hassle and expense of the boot, even if the City does not have a current mailing address for the vehicle owner.

Approximately 15,000 license plates, including more than 1,000 out-of-state plates, with a total of 43,620 outstanding tickets with over \$4.8 million owed are currently on the Courtesy Notice list.



30-DAY NOTICES: Ensuring all bootable vehicles receive fair and legal warning.

On September 2, 2014, Seattle City Council passed legislation to enable on-vehicle notification for motorists with four unpaid parking tickets. Owners are notified they have 30 days to pay their fines before their vehicles are booted.

Prior to the legislation, motorists with out-of-state plates or invalid vehicle registration addresses had no means of receiving the required 30-day notice that their vehicle would be eligible for booting.

Approximately 2,000 license plates with 18,203 outstanding tickets with over \$1.9 million owed are on the 30-Day Scofflaw Notice list. It is estimated that the 30-day Notice program will generate approximately \$90,000 in revenue in the first 12 months of the program.

OUTREACH TO VEHICLE RESIDENTS



For the past 3 years, Parking Enforcement Officers (PEOs) and the Seattle Municipal Court (SMC) have partnered with community advocates and outreach workers to assist people living in vehicles who may have unpaid parking tickets. PEOs issue advisory notices to these vehicles *without booting the vehicle*, and connect the owner to resources and City Programs.

The On-Vehicle Noticing Program, will add two additional opportunities for contact:

- Courtesy Notice informing vehicle owner that they have 3 outstanding tickets;
- 30-Day Notice containing payment plan information

WHAT HAPPENS IF A PEO BELIEVES THAT A CAR IS ON THE SCOFFLAW LIST AND IS ALSO A RESIDENCE?

Parking Enforcement will notify the Seattle Human Services Department, the Seattle Police Department and SMC that the motorist needs follow-up through the [Road to Housing Program](#) or the Scofflaw Mitigation Project, a community advocacy group. The vehicle owner will also receive information on emergency hotlines, meal sites, shelters and financial assistance.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A PERSON CONTACTS SMC AND CANNOT PAY THEIR TICKETS?

Everyone has an option to request a payment plan or a hearing prior to defaulting on a parking ticket. Low income individuals may request community service instead of paying a fine. After 15 days, a ticket defaults and is sent to collections.

The collection agency can also set up a payment plan.

In cases of extreme hardship, SMC may reduce collection fees and interest, and/or convert fines to community service, especially for income-related offenses such as expired registration.

30-DAY NOTICE LIST TEST RUN

Last August, PEOs conducted a 3-day test run to understand if the 30-Day Notice might disproportionately affect car campers in SODO and Ballard. During this trial there were no license plate reader hits from the 30-Day Notice list of vehicles that may be serving as residences.