

FISH HOEK VALLEY RATEPAYERS & RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

(Incorporating Fish Hoek, Clovelly and Sun Valley)

Central Circle, Fish Hoek 7975

Web: <https://www.fhvrta.org.za/> Facebook: www.facebook.com/FHVRRA/

Heritage Western Cape: Conservation Body

TO: Budget.Comments@capetown.gov.za ¹

SUBJECT: COMMENTS ON THE CITY'S DRAFT BUDGET 2021-22 ²

DUE: 23 APRIL 2021

Fish Hoek Beach Parking Tariffs

The beach parking tariffs and administration thereof are a major bone of contention for Fish Hoek residents and visitors. This letter is an objection to just one aspect of the issue, namely, the parking tariff proposed in the City's draft budget for 2021/22.

The proposed daily tariff for 2021/22 is R 22, an increase of $\pm 4.8\%$ on the R 21.00 daily tariff for 2020/21. It appears to be a bureaucratic increase in line with the 4.5% inflation increases proposed by the Mayor.

The daily tariff increase from 2019/20 to 2020/21 i.e. R 18 to R 21 appears to be an anomaly of 16.67% increase.

Let us now examine these proposed tariffs in relation to the declared vision of the City as :-

"Our vision is of a safe city that is clean, attractive to investors, welcoming to visitors and underpinned by a vibrant, growing economy."

"Our vision is of a well-run, democratic city that is accountable to the people of Cape Town, corruption free, transparent in all its activities and prudent in the management of its finances."

"We commit ourselves to a focus on the citizen as customer, to be responsive to the needs of the people and to efficiently deliver affordable services to all."

The Fish Hoek Beach parking kiosk only operates on days when the beach is popular i.e. summer weekends, holidays, gala occasions, etc. A visitor or resident usually finds herself in a queue of traffic. Very few have exactly R 18 or R 21 or R 22 available to pay - R 20 or R 20 + R10 or R50 or R 100 are common. Even if there is an adequate float of change (which is rare), the transaction takes time (even more if one has to wait for a receipt), so most motorists become impatient and/or write off their change and are left with the following impressions:-

¹ [Email: MEDIA RELEASE: Have your say on the City's budget](mailto:MEDIA RELEASE: Have your say on the City's budget)

² <https://www.capetown.gov.za/Family and home/Meet-the-City/the-city-budget/the-citys-budget-2021-2022>

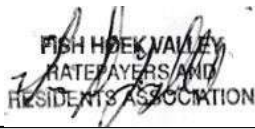
- What idiots set tariffs at such odd amounts as R 18 or R 21 or R 22?
- Is the City recovering all the excess payments for parking or is the money going into the pockets of the parking attendants?
- This parking fee system is haplessly inefficient.
- Is this a City that is “welcoming to visitors”, “corruption free, transparent in all its activities and prudent in the management of its finances” and “focus on citizen as a customer, to be responsive to the needs of the people and to efficiently deliver affordable services to all”?

FHVRRA is well aware that the Fish Hoek Beach parking revenues are a “rounding error” in a City budget of R 56,48 billion. However, life is about perceptions and this irrelevant, mindlessly calculated parking tariff leaves a pervading bitter taste of City officials hidebound by bureaucracy which enables corruption, detached from their citizens and visitors, without management by our elected representatives.

SUMMARY

Our recommendations are the following:

1. The daily fee for Fish Hoek Beach parking should be R 20 for 2021/2.
2. There should be a special concession of free access for disabled folk.
3. The annual parking tariff for 2021/22 should be R 170. It should be clearly stated that it is valid from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 and it should be available from both the “Campsite” office and for subscription online.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| NAME & SURNAME | <i>Brian Youngblood, Chair: Fish Hoek Valley Residents and Ratepayers Association (FHVRRA)</i> |
| CONTACT NUMBER | <i>Cell: 084 3 99 99 33</i> |
| E-MAIL ADDRESS | <u>FishHoekRRA@gmail.com</u> |
| SIGNATURE |  |
| DATE | 10 April 2021 |