



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CITY OF NEW ORLEANS

MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU
MAYOR

DANI E. GALLOWAY
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

March 9, 2018

Howard Schwartz, Interim Inspector General
New Orleans Office of Inspector General
525 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70130

Re: Response to Letter Entitled *Sewerage & Water Board employees are utilizing handicap hang-tags to park for free in metered spaces on Saint Joseph Street*

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

In response to your office's letter, *Sewerage & Water Board employees are utilizing handicap hang-tags to park for free in metered spaces on Saint Joseph Street*, the Department of Public Works contacted the Sewerage and Water Board to request that the agency notify and educate their employees on proper parking protocol. The Sewerage and Water Board confirmed that they have notified their employees.

Further, on March 1, 2018, the Parking Administrator assigned Parking Enforcement Officers (PEOs) to survey the following areas:

- 600 block of St. Joseph Street
- 700 block of St. Joseph Street
- 600 block of Julia Street
- 800 block of St. Charles Avenue
- 800 block of Camp Street

From this survey, the PEOs issued 11 citations for expired meters due to an invalid handicap placard, sticker, and/or hang-tag. In an effort to discourage individuals from improperly or illegally using handicap tags to park in metered spaces, the Parking Division will assign PEOs to conduct a monthly sweep of the area listed above.

Without a valid handicap plate, sticker, or placard, the vehicles cited were in violation of 154-1086 (b).

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It shall be unlawful for a vehicle to be parked in a metered space on the days and between the hours of operation indicated in paragraph (a) above, when the specified payment has not been made for use of the metered space and the single/double space parking meter, multispace pay station or OPS indicates that such payment has not been made, or when signage indicates that such space is not a legal parking space at that time. It shall be lawful to park in such legal parking spaces on public holidays, as defined in section 154-2, without payment of the specified amount, regardless of the presence of single/double space parking meters, multispace pay stations or OPS which might at other times regulate such space.

The Department of Public Works does not have the authority to cite for fake or faulty handicap hang-tags. PEOs, however, can give those vehicles a citation for an expired meter.

One of the Department of Public Works' highest priority is to provide public safety by managing curb space via enforcement of City ordinances. Thank you for alerting the Department of this practice.

Sincerely,

Dani Galloway
Director of Public Works

