



**COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE**

**City of San Diego  
Sixth District**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 19, 2006  
**TO:** Members of the Natural Resources and Culture Committee  
**FROM:** Councilmember Frye, Chair, Natural Resources and Culture Committee  
**SUBJECT:** Preferred Parking for Hybrid Vehicles at City-Owned Parking Lots

*Donna Frye*

In order to encourage the purchase and use of low emission vehicles, I propose that the city offer preferred parking spaces to drivers of hybrid, electric and alternative-fuel vehicles in the Civic Center, Convention Center, Qualcomm Stadium, Petco Park, and any other city-owned public parking lot. Such spaces should comprise at least 5% of the available public parking spots, be clearly and prominently marked, and be given preferential locations with respect to facility entrances.

Although qualifying vehicles may receive a preferred parking location, all relevant parking fees will remain in force for all vehicles at this time.

As of 2005, the DMV reports that there were 205,700 hybrids registered in the U.S. (1.2% of total vehicle sales), there were 52,600 in the state of California, and there were 4,200 hybrids registered in San Diego (2.2% of U.S. Share).

This measure would not only provide more incentives to San Diegans to purchase hybrids, but would also protect public health by lowering pollution, help reduce US dependence on foreign oil, and take a small measure against global warming.

The cities of San Jose, California, Los Angeles, California, Albuquerque, New Mexico and New Haven, Connecticut have taken a step farther by allowing free metered parking for hybrid vehicles in their cities. I request that staff evaluate the impacts of such an initiative for the September Natural Resources and Culture hearing on global warming issues.

Thank you for considering this measure.

cc: City Councilmembers, Independent Budget Analyst

DF/nc