

Disclaimer: The following is a non-binding translation of the original Hebrew document. It is provided by **HaMoked: Center for the Defence of the Individual** for information purposes only. The original Hebrew prevails in any case of discrepancy. While every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy, **HaMoked** is not liable for the proper and complete translation nor does it accept any liability for the use of, reliance on, or for any errors or misunderstandings that may derive from the English translation. **For queries about the translation please contact site@hamoked.org.il**

Date: April 14, 2015
In your response please note: 87021

To:
Mrs. Revital Marzen
Director of Parking Services Division
Jerusalem Municipality
1 Safra square
Jerusalem

By Fax
and Registered Mail

Urgent!

Dear Madam,

Re: **Absence of Meters (for the collection of parking fees) in the streets of East Jerusalem,**
Absence of defined time schedules and dates for paid parking, and Problems in the parking lot adjacent to the Employment Bureau and Ministry of Interior in Wadi Joz
Our letter to the Mayor of Jerusalem dated March 5, 2015
Reply letter of the Mayor of Jerusalem dated March 9, 2015

1. The Mayor of Jerusalem, Mr. Nir Barkat, referred the above referenced matter for your attention. Therefore, I hereby write to you and request that you **immediately** take measures to arrange the issue of paid parking in the streets and neighborhoods of East Jerusalem, including the installation of meters for the collection of parking fees and the immediate issue of parking cards in the streets of East Jerusalem – until the machines are installed we request that the municipal inspectors be directed not to issue parking tickets to lawfully parked vehicles (in blue and white). We also request that parking days and hours be defined in the parking signs installed in the streets of East Jerusalem, including maximum parking duration and the days and hours of paid parking in each street. Finally, we request that parking in the parking lot of the Employment Bureau and Ministry of Interior in Wadi Joz be adapted to the needs of the population there, including the possibility of whole day parking for a symbolic fee.

Copies of our letters dated March 5, 2015, to Mr. Nir Barkat, the Mayor of Jerusalem, are attached and marked **A-B**.

A copy of the reply letter of Mr. Barkat dated March 9, 2015 which was received in our office on March 15, 2015, is attached and marked **C**.

2. HaMoked: Center for the Defence of the Individual is a human rights organization which promotes and defends the rights of Palestinians residents of East Jerusalem.



HAMOKED
CENTER FOR
THE DEFENCE OF
THE INDIVIDUAL

המוקד להגנת הפרט
مركز الدفاع عن الفرد

4 Abu Obeidah St.
Jerusalem 97200
Tel. +972.2.6283555
Fax. +972.2.6276317

شارع أبو عبيده ٤
القدس ٩٧٢٠٠
هاتف. ٠٢. ٦٢٨٣٥٥٥
فاكس. ٠٢. ٦٢٧٦٣١٧

mail@hamoked.org.il
www.hamoked.org.il

Absence of meters and substantial details in parking signs in the streets of East Jerusalem

3. Recently, complaints were received in our office, according to which the Municipality of Jerusalem failed to install meters in the streets of East Jerusalem where payment for on-street parking is required, with the exception of one meter near the Postal Authority in Salah a-Din Street – which is valid for a limited area. In addition, the parking signs installed in these streets do not include substantial details regarding parking on site, including maximum parking duration, paid parking days and paid parking hours on street.
4. As you know, as of January 1, 2014, the municipality canceled the manual parking cards which until then were sold in stores throughout the city. Consequently, individuals who park on the street must have in their possession an "easypark" card or a parking application through the cellular phone such as "pango". Many East Jerusalem residents cannot afford these options. In addition, these means were intended to **add** parking payment options to residents rather than to cancel the option to pay for parking by meters.
5. It should be noted that in the event meters are not operable in West Jerusalem, the municipality inspectors refrain from giving parking tickets until the problem is repaired. However, in the case at hand, despite the absence of meters and absence of defined paid parking times on the parking signs, the municipality inspectors continue to sweepingly issue parking tickets.

The parking lot of the Population and Immigration Authority and Employment Bureau in Wadi Joz

6. Recently, the municipality decided to suddenly change the situation and to charge parking fees in the above mentioned parking lot. Nevertheless, the municipality failed to install there meters. In addition, the parking signs which were installed on scene do not include substantial details, including the times of paid parking.

It should be noted that when a decision was made to charge parking fees in said location, the needs of the local population, which often needs the services of the population office, were not taken into account. Unlike state citizens, residents are required to arrive to the office for child registration, visa renewals and family unification procedure, hearing for center of life substantiation, acquisition of passage tickets before each trip abroad, etc.; the same applies to the employment services.

Also were not taken into account the nature and the duration of waiting for service at the offices, which lingers over many hours from the moment of entry into the building, going through a meticulous security check and then prolonged waiting inside the building until service is rendered by an office employee. Many applicants are forced to park in the lot all day long, having no real ability to exit the building for parking renewal purposes, given the fact that going back in takes a long time as a result of the security checks and the great load, so that people are not willing to take a chance and lose their place on queue. In addition, public reception hours are limited and at a certain point entry to the offices is no longer permitted, until the handling of applicants who have already entered is completed. Charging applicants to the employment bureau or the population bureau with parking fees encumbers and severely harms the weak population of the city.

7. In view of the above we request:
 - a. To install meters in the streets of East Jerusalem.
 - b. To immediately direct the inspectors to refrain from issuing parking tickets in streets in which there are no meters throughout the city.
 - c. To install parking signs with information concerning the maximum parking duration, and paid parking days and hours.
 - d. To cancel paid parking in the parking lot adjacent to the joint building of the Population and Immigration Authority and the Employment Bureau in Wadi Joz; and alternatively, to facilitate an arrangement in the framework of which symbolic payment will be charged for a whole day parking. In addition, and for as long as no meters have been installed on scene, the inspectors should be immediately directed to refrain from giving parking tickets over there.
8. At this stage we consider our steps, including turning to the appropriate legal instances.
9. Your prompt attention to this matter is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Abir Joubran-Dakwar
Advocate

CC:
Mr. Nir Barkat, Mayor of Jerusalem