

Downtown Parking

In 2010, the City Council formed a committee made up of 23 downtown residents, property owners, stakeholders, and other interested citizens to study downtown parking. The committee met for 18 months to develop a recommendation about downtown parking that identified not only the parking problems that exist, but a way to fund a solution to any parking problem. The recommendations of the committee include the following:

Action #1 - Institute Market-Rate Pricing

- **Automated ticket taker - garages**

Provide automated machines in downtown parking garages. Automated machines will increase revenue and allow current employees to provide other services to downtown.

Estimated revenue per year:.....\$175,000

- **Install pay-by-space parking meters**

The parking committee has recommended “pay-by-space” meters. Each parking space will have a standard parking meter that will take coins only. Fifty cents will purchase one hour.

Estimated revenue per year:.....\$470,400

- **Easier enforcement.** Enforcement officers do not need to check license plates on each car to see who hasn't paid. They can easily find out who is in violation at the meter itself. Meters are not partial, if the time has expired, the car is in violation.

Action #2 - Improvements to Parking Garages/Surface Parking Lot

A maintenance account would be established to fund on-going costs associated with the upkeep of the parking garages. Currently, the city does not have funding to pay for annual maintenance and needed upgrades to these facilities. The city would follow through with plans for improving the surface parking lot located at 5th Street and Edmond.

Action #3 - Provide Security and Establish a Maintenance Fund

Security would be provided downtown to patrol the area to ensure downtown residents, businesses, and customers feel safe, to become a liaison to downtown visitors, to answer questions and to provide directions when necessary. In addition, a maintenance fund for improvement to landscape and trash removal would be established.

Additional Facts

- Downtown has 1,175 parking spaces more than East Hills Mall. There is not a shortage of parking, but a parking management problem.
- The city's current parking system allows for the best parking to be free and charges more to park farther away. The committee viewed this as a flawed system and recommended shifting two-hour free parking into the parking garages and charging .50 per hour to park on the street.
- Parking garages would be **FREE** for the first two hours Monday through Friday 8am-5pm. Each parking garage would also include an automated payment system to collect funds from customers as a 24/7 operation.
- **Parking meters would not be installed until parking garage improvements are completed.**
- Funds collected from parking users will stay downtown to fund parking improvements.

Visitor Parking

Park for free when you visit downtown...

There are three centrally located parking garages and two surface parking locations where parking will be free for the first two hours:

Parking Garages

- 4th and Felix
- 8th and Felix
- 6th and Faraon

Surface Parking

- 5th and Edmond
- 9th and Felix



Paying the meters...

Payment for metered parking is required Monday – Friday, 8am-5pm. On-street parking is **FREE** all day on Saturdays and Sundays, on city holidays, and from 5pm-8am during the week.

Cost to park at the meters...

Parking meters cost .50 per hour.

Payment methods available...

- **Meters** - Accepts coins only.
- **Pay stations for parking garages** - A pay station will be located in each parking garage and will accept bills, coins, credit, or debit cards (VISA, MasterCard and Discover).

Pay station...

Pay stations are used in the Parking Garages in place of individual parking meters. Pay for parking over two hours as you exit the parking garage.

Time limits...

Parking is allowed in a time limited parking zone only if the meter label states it is a limited parking zone or if posted on signs. In these zones, vehicles may not park on either side of the same street for more than two hours in a three-hour period. You may not simply feed and remain parked at the same meter. Time limits are enforced in downtown until 5pm on weekdays.

Permit Parking

Obtain a permit if you work downtown...

The city offers daytime permit parking at a variety of rates in the various garage locations. Permit parking is a great option, costing less than paying a meter daily. Rates range from \$10 to \$25 per month. Contact Customer Assistance for more information at (816) 271-4754 or 271-4756.

One-day parking for downtown...

The city does not offer one-day parking permits for downtown. However, with two-hour free parking in each of the city parking garages, a nine-hour day (8am–5pm) would cost a maximum of \$3.50.

Parking options if you live downtown...

The city does not currently offer a 24/7 resident only parking permit. However, some landlords do provide off-street parking for their tenants.

Overnight parking options guests of downtown residents...

Overnight parking is available at no charge at the metered parking spaces from 5pm-8am weekdays, all day Saturday and Sunday, and on city holidays.