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PARK Roanoke's Newsletter©

www.PARKRoanoke.com

July 11, 2017



PARK Roanoke, in conjunction with The City of Roanoke has announced that the new Downtown on-street metered parking pilot program will commence on Monday, July 24th at 8:00 am EST. The pilot program will remain in effect for approximately 90 days.

The mission of PARK Roanoke's on-street metered parking program is to promote the vitality of Downtown Roanoke and its Central Business District as well as to provide citizens of Roanoke the shared opportunity to access accessible Downtown parking. The program will drive vehicle turnover, which translates to increased parking availability and ultimately an increase in the total volume of patrons to Downtown.

The pilot program will be limited to 65 parking spaces -- or about 4.5% -- of Downtown Roanoke's current 1,400 on-street parking spaces. The 65 parking spaces will be separated into three designated pilot zones,

Patrons will register and pay for their on-street parking at one of seven new, multi-space smart meters. The multi-space smart meters will be located on 100 Blk Wall St. SE, 100 Blk Market St. SE, 1st Blk Market St. SE, 1st Blk Salem Ave SE between Wall and Jefferson, 1st Blk, Franklin Rd. SE between Jefferson St. and Williamson Rd.

To register and pay for on-street parking, patrons will enter their vehicle's license plate number at one of the seven multi-space smart meters and can submit payment to the smart meter with bankcards, US coins or the mobile application Whoosh!.

For details including rates, map, and zone information, please visit www.PARKRoanoke.com

Tips to Avoid a Citation

But I didn't see the sign... We recommend checking carefully each time you park and making note of signs that may be blocked by another vehicle. As a Driver, it is your responsibility to know and to abide by the parking regulations.

Why did I get a citation... I moved my car a few spaces up? City Code states... "No person shall permit a vehicle or motorcycle to be parked for a time period longer than specified on the signs without either (1) moving the vehicle a minimum of 500 feet from the parking space or zone, or (2) vacating the original parking space or zone for ten (10) minutes.

All of my co-workers wipe off the chalk marks from the tire and leave their vehicles parked, what's wrong with that? City Code states... "It shall be unlawful to erase, remove, or cover up any chalk mark placed for identification purposes upon any vehicle ..."

Remember:

Do not park with any part of the tire on or over the curb, median or sidewalk. This causes costly damage.

Do not park within 15 feet of a fire hydrant or fire connection.

Do not park within 20 feet of any corner or intersection.

Do not park within 5 feet of either side of a driveway.

Never park in a No Parking Zone.

Passenger vehicles may park in certain loading zones only for

actively loading and unloading.

Do not park in a zone designated for street cleaning. Park within 12" of a curb.

Rate Changes Effective August 1, 2017

As part of the City of Roanoke's budget development process for FY2017-2018, the parking fees and rates were evaluated and several changes were approved by City Council on May 15, 2017. The non-taxpayer financed parking system uses all revenues generated by user fees to operate and maintain the parking system and to address all capital needs and expansions for the public's use.

The following summarizes the changes effective August 1, 2017:

- Campbell Garage \$45 per month
- Campbell Garage Early Bird \$4 with entry prior to 9:00 a.m.
- Gainsboro Garage \$50 per month
- Higher Education Center Lot \$50 per month
- All residential parking \$25 per month
- Late Payment Fee \$10 for accounts paid after the 5th of the month

All other lots and garages remain at the same monthly rate. All rate changes will be reflected in the July 15th invoices for August monthly parking charges.

All changes will be effective August 1, 2017. If you are an autodraft customer, we will automatically update the draft amount for you. If you pay via WageWorks or other third-party entity, please update them directly with the new rate, beginning in August 2017.



Payments for Monthly Parking and for Citations may now be paid on-line or over a toll free telephone line.

www.PARKRoanoke.com/payments or dial

1-888-272-9829 Use Jurisdiction Code 6246

A nominal processing fee of \$1.95 applies to credit/debit card payments.

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T'S EASY TO PARK ONCE AND ENJOY ALL THAT DOWNTOWN ROANOKE OFFERS

Carpooling: The Classic Commute Alternative By Jeremy Holmes, Direction RIDE Solutions

When you're looking for ways to cut your commute expenses, the options can seem overwhelming – especially when there's an app for everything. From Uber to Zagster to Google, technology provides ample ways for you to find a ride, find a bike, or find a bus.

But you don't need to have the latest app or smartest phone to start saving money – with RIDE Solutions carpool matching service, we do all the work, using your route and schedule to help you find potential rideshare partners at or near your worksite. Through a process called corridor matching, we look not only for folks who live and work near you, but anyone who might be passing by you on their way to work, or whose worksite might lie beyond yours. By using park-and-rides and other common meeting points, we can increase the chances of finding you a match.

How do I get a carpool started?

RIDE Solutions has made finding carpool partners easy. We maintain a database of people who are interested in carpooling, as well as information on their origin and destination points, their work schedule, and preference for driving, riding, or alternating. Think no one around you carpools? Check out our Commuter Map and see. It has the general starting point every carpooler in our database.

Sign up with RIDE Solutions to request a free carpool match list.

Once you've got your match list from us, there are several of ways you can organize your carpool:

- One person can be the designated driver, while riders chip in for gas each week.
- Carpoolers can take turns with driving duties switching day to day or week to week. This way, no one vehicle takes the brunt of all the driving.
- Because many of our members prefer to do all the driving, carpooling is even an option for folks who don't have a car. Just pitch in for gas, and you're good to go.

You can arrange carpools with folks in your immediate neighborhood, or use one of the area's <u>park-and-ride lots</u> to meet other commuters and carpool to your final destination.

Carpooling doesn't have to be an everyday affair, either. Lots of folks pick one or two days a week as "carpool day," freeing up other days for more flexible scheduling needs. And keep in mind that even carpooling only one day a week reduces your transportation expenses by 10% to 20%.

Of course, finding a match with RIDE Solutions is always free and no obligation, so requesting a match list doesn't mean you have to join a carpool right away. It's just a way of knowing your options.

Register at <u>www.ridesolutions.org</u> for your carpool match list and to access other great benefits.





Register - Create a free account at ridesolutions.org. Everyone who bikes, walks, carpools, or takes transit can use Guaranteed Ride Home.



Download - If you ever get stuck at work, just log in to your account, download your voucher, and contact a partner taxi company to arrange your ride



Get Home - Just present your voucher when your ride arrives and you're good to go! No up front payment required.





UNLOCKED VEHICLES ARE THE BEST GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE TO A THIEF

by Scott Leamon, Crime Prevention Specialist, Roanoke Police



We still have approximately 160 shopping days till Christmas!

But for thieves, it's Christmas in July when you leave your car windows rolled down or leave your car unlocked.

A few years ago we looked at this statistically since theft from vehicle cases is one of the prime drivers of crime in the City of Roanoke. We found that in six out of every ten cases, or 60 percent, there was no forced

entry into the vehicle, meaning that it was most likely left unlocked. When it's unlocked, it's as easy for the bad guys as it is for my kids to pick out a pair of socks to buy me at Valley View Mall because that's what they always get me for Christmas.

And this is extending far beyond just stealing items out of cars. In the last calendar year [since July 2016], of the 170 vehicles we've had stolen in the city, a total of 46 were left unlocked, with the keys inside the vehicle! That's just an enormously telling statistic! Many more of those vehicles were recovered with no sign of forced entry and no damage to the steering column.

Now we don't see many stolen vehicles from the parking garages but we do see theft from vehicle cases from time-to-time. Much like I start telling my kids in August how much I like ties, in an effort to condition them to buy me a tie instead of socks for Christmas, we need to condition ourselves to always lock our car doors and not leave anything valuable in plain view.

Let's make sure all the thieves get for Christmas is their two front teeth.





To learn more visit: www.nsc.org

- Every 7 seconds, someone is injured in a car crash
- Every 15 minutes, someone is killed
- Many of the crashes occur during the work day or the daily commute
- Employers absorb costs associated with these crashes, whether they occur on or off the job
- Motor vehicle crashes are the #1 cause of workplace death

It's Hot Hot in the Summer......

Remember to never leave pets or children in a vehicle even if the vehicle is parked in the shade. Of course, never leave the engine running in a locked car—In some types of automobiles, the engine will automatically turn off after a few minutes. In a matter of seconds, the heat can increase to well over 140 degrees.

Just like in cold weather, take care of your vehicle and make sure it is well maintained, check your tires, monitor fluids, get an oil change, and make sure you have an emergency kit complete with extra water. Drivers may become dehydrated so remember to pack and drink plenty of water.

Don't Rush, Concentrate on Driving and cut out distractions. Watch your Speed. Watch for other distracted or drunk drivers, Respect Trucks.

For more summer safety driving tips, please visit www.PARKRoanoke.com/safety or search the topic in any browser.

