

News Release

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Media Contact:

Caron Sjoberg, APR, CPRC

Ideawörks

(850) 434-9095 • carons@ideaworks.co

Downtown Improvement Board Completes Parking Equipment Upgrades, Announces Public Parking Training Session Aug. 14

Pensacola, FL (July 30, 2018) - The Downtown Improvement Board has installed new pay machines to replace broken and outdated on-street parking equipment. The upgrades will enable the same “pay by license plate” credentialing that is currently in place at Jefferson Street Garage. The Premium Parking mobile app and TextPay option are currently being used by a little more than one-third of the system’s daily parkers.

To help give parkers time to get used to using the new pay stations, the DIB will phase the changes in over the next three months. During the introduction period, parkers will have the option to enter their license plate number into a pay station, choose an amount of time to park, pay and then walk away. After an initial consumer awareness window, parkers will no longer need to return to their vehicle to display a paper receipt on dash. **The change does not affect parkers at Jefferson Street Garage which already uses license plate credentialing.* The transition schedule is outlined below.

- In June, the end-of-life pay machines were updated. No operational changes were made to the payment process.
- Beginning September 5, parkers will be prompted to enter their license plate # at on-street pay machines, select parking duration and then pay.
- During a 45-day introduction period, parkers can enter their license plate #, select a duration, pay and walk away, or if they do not recall their license plate #, they can simply enter “1234” to bypass and return to their vehicle to display the paper receipt on dash.
- As of October 20, all parkers will enter their license plate # when using an on-street pay machine and will no longer need to return to their vehicle to display the paper receipt on dash.

Most of the existing on-street legacy pay machines have reached their end-of-life and experience frequent mechanical failures. Revenue generated by the DIB parking system covered the cost to update the pay machines to help improve the transaction time and overall experience for parkers who pay with credit card or coins. Broken coin meters on downtown streets have also been inventoried and mapped and will be repaired or replaced with new “smart meters” during phase two of equipment upgrades.

Park Pensacola – How to Park, Pay & Play Downtown Training Session

Date: Tuesday, August 14, 2018

Time: 10 a.m.

Location: J. Earle Bowden Building, 120 Church St., Pensacola

On August 14, the DIB will host a training session beginning at 10 a.m., designed for anyone who needs help with the new parking procedures or would like assistance downloading and using the parking app. The session is free and open to the public.

“Each year, downtown Pensacola welcomes thousands of visitors, and there are changes to the parking program that we want everyone to be aware of before heading downtown,” said Lissa Dees, DIB interim executive director. A real pay station will be set up for demonstrations, and a representative from Premium Parking will provide an overview of downtown parking options, help guests load and navigate the app, demonstrate how to use the parking website to locate available parking and pricing, and answer any parking questions. At the end of the training session, there will be a parking quiz and those who complete it will be entered to win free parking for one week in the Jefferson Street parking garage. Coffee and cookies will be available for all attendees as well as a gift for attending.

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About the Pensacola Downtown Improvement Board

The Pensacola Downtown Improvement Board (DIB) is an independent state agency funded by a special tax on properties within its district boundaries. The district consists of 40 blocks that encompass the urban core of Downtown Pensacola. The DIB is governed by a five-member Board of Directors and guided by eight committees comprised of downtown property owners and businesspeople. To learn more about the DIB and all that is going on in Downtown Pensacola, visit www.downtownpensacola.com.