



The rate policy currently in effect is as follows:

1. Reduced rates in all parkades:
  - a. Daily rate - \$1 per hour with the 1<sup>st</sup> hour free
  - b. Monthly rate - \$85
  - c. Daily rate maximum of \$5 in all parkades excluding the Yates Street and Centennial Square parkades, which have a maximum of \$9 per hour
2. Reduced on-street metered rates:
  - a. In the 90 minute zone - \$2 per hour, with a 90 minute time limit
  - b. All other zones - \$1 per hour, with no time limits
3. Reduced parking lot rates - \$1 per hour with a \$5 daily maximum
4. Suspended enforcement of unmetered time-limited zones, except for 30 minute zones

Parking space utilization has continued to experience a steady increase over the past month. As of the week ending July 10, on-street use climbed to 76% of last year's transaction volumes. However, as previously reported, the usage is not evenly distributed throughout all metered areas. The 90 minute metered spaces exceeded last year's transaction volumes, reaching 125%, indicating capacity challenges and suggesting a rate increase is warranted to achieve desired turnover rates and the target occupancy of 85%. Therefore, it is recommended that on-street rates and time limits be reinstated to pre-COVID levels as outlined in Appendix A. Given the large overall capacity within parkades (as discussed below), parkers would have alternative options.

Time-limited zones have also seen a significant increase in usage and staff are receiving complaints from businesses that there is essentially no turnover in these areas, which impacts access for their customers. The increased usage suggests that reinstating enforcement of these zones to increase turnover is warranted at this time. Residential zones, which have remained unchanged, will continue to provide parking for those required to self-isolate.


Overall, within parkades, utilization is currently at approximately 55% of last year's transaction volumes, up from approximately 40% in early June. Although there is still a large overall capacity within the parkades, usage at the Yates Street and Centennial Square parkades continues to be high. Broughton Street Parkade continues to experience the lowest usage compared to 'normal' at only about 50% of last year's transaction volumes. The rate increases implemented in June saw some shifting from the Yates Street and Centennial Square parkades, but capacity remains a challenge at times in those facilities. Therefore, it is recommended that regular hourly rates be reinstated at the Yates Street and Centennial Square parkades, with a reduced daily maximum of \$14.50. It is also recommended that monthly rates in these two parkades be increased; the suggested rates reflect a substantial, but gradual increase to encourage shifting to other parkades while recognizing the current economic situation in the community. Should Council approve recommended changes, based on historical experience, it is anticipated that usage will continue to shift from the Yates Street and Centennial Square parkades, as well as from on-street spaces, to the other parkades. Therefore, to manage expected increased usage at the View Street and Johnson Street parkades and to encourage longer-term usage of the Broughton Street Parkade, it is also recommended that the daily maximum be increased to \$9 for those two locations. No other rate adjustments are recommended at this time due to the large overall available capacity within the parkades.

Parking lot usage is also increasing, specifically in the Wharf and Royal Theatre lots. Therefore, it is recommended that the rates for those lots be increased. No changes are recommended for the Royal Athletic Park lot.

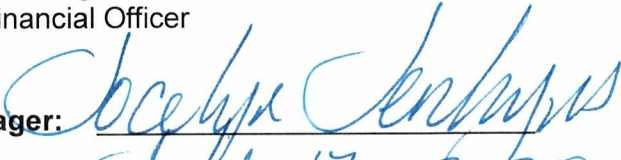
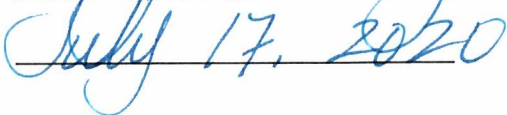
As directed by Council, staff will continue to report back with further recommended changes for consideration as parking system capacity evolves.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Ismo Hysu  
Manager of Parking Services

  
Susanne Thompson  
Deputy City Manager  
and Chief Financial Officer

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

  
Date:  July 17, 2020

**List of Attachments:**

- Appendix A – Map of Metered Parking Zones with Pre-COVID Rates and Time Limits
- Appendix B – Pre-COVID Parkade and Parking Lot Rates