We're making parking easier.

#### Update on Parking Improvements September 2014



## Introduction

- This spring, we heard from 1,050+ people on how to improve parking
- Key considerations for parking downtown: convenience, cost and availability
- On Monday, September 15, a range of improvements will be in place to shift motorists from higher-demand on-street parking spaces to City's five parkades.





# **Our Commitment**

- 1. To improve customer service
- 2. To make parking easier
- 3. To support vitality of downtown





# **City Parkade Improvements**

#### **Reduced Parkade Rates**

- First hour is always free (no need for a coupon)
- Evening parking is free Monday to Saturday
   6 p.m. – 8 a.m.
- Parking is free all day on Sundays and holidays
- Reduced rates of \$2 per hour (15 minute increments)
- \$12 vehicle day rate (\$14 Bastion)
- \$4 motorcycle day rate

**Bastion Square Bastion Square Parkade** First Hour Free Free Evening Parking Free Parking Sundays and Holidays



# SafeWalk Service

SafeWalk service provides customers with the option of calling a parkade security guard to meet and accompany them to their vehicle.

- Call up to 10-15 minutes in advance to arrange meeting place at parkade.
- Each parkade has a dedicated phone number posted, and available as a wallet card and at victoria.ca/parking.





## SafeWalk Wallet Card





# **About City Parkades**

- 5 parkades located within two blocks of downtown attractions
- 1,856 parking spaces
- 24/7 on-site security and SafeWalk service
- 1 3 electric vehicle charging stations per parkade
- Motorcycle parking (except Johnson Street Parkade)
- Covered bicycle parking
- Electric bicycle parking
- Specialty parking spaces next to elevators





# Location of City Parkades

- Bastion Square Parkade
  575 Yates Street
- Broughton Street Parkade
  745 Broughton Street
  (below Central Library)
- Centennial Square Parkade 645 Fisgard Street
- Johnson Street Parkade
  750 Johnson Street
- View Street Parkade 743 View Street



View Street Parkade



## Parkade Cleaning and Painting

City parkades are undergoing cleaning and painting to give them a fresher look.

- Doorways
- Elevator frames
- Directional arrows and curbs
- Booths









## Painting Johnson Street Parkade

Painting is underway of exterior of Johnson Street Parkade and will be completed this fall.









# New ID Signage for Parkades

New identification signage which promotes benefits of parking in City parkades.



**Current Signage** 



New Signage



### Welcome and Thank You Signage

New signage for parkade entrances and exits to welcome and thank customers for visiting downtown.



**CETORIA** Thank You for Visiting Downtown



## New Rate Signage in Parkades

#### New and improved rate signage.

#### Welcome to Centennial Square Parkade

Please Take a Ticket to Enter/Exit

First Hour Free Free Evenings 6 p.m. – 8 a.m. Free Sundays and Holidays

Rates: \$2 Per Hour | \$12 Vehicle Day Rate \$4 Motorcycle Day Rate Lost Ticket Charged Day Rate

#### Payment Accepted:

Cash or Credit Card 💲 📼 🐽 🔤

24/7 Security | SafeWalk: 250.880.0683



victoria.ca/parking

#### **Please Have Payment Ready**

First Hour Free Free Evenings 6 p.m. – 8 a.m. Free Sundays and Holidays

#### Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.:

\$2 Per Hour (15 minute increments)\$12 Vehicle Day Rate\$4 Motorcycle Day Rate

Lost Ticket Charged Day Rate

#### Centennial Square Parkade Rates

First Hour Free Free Evenings 6 p.m. – 8 a.m. Free Sundays and Holidays

#### Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.:

\$2 Per Hour (15 minute increments)\$12 Vehicle Day Rate\$4 Motorcycle Day Rate

Lost Ticket Charged Day Rate

Payment Accepted: Cash or Credit Card SS 🔤 😁 🖬 No Debit

24/7 Security SafeWalk: 250.880.0683







## Short-Term Parkade Signage

Lower levels (upper levels at Broughton) are signed for shortterm three-hour parking Monday to Friday 8 a.m. -4 p.m.





## **Directional Signage for Parkades**

New directional signage such as pedestrian walkway signs inside and outside of Centennial and Bastion Square Parkades are helpful and improve safety.







#### Parking Space Counter Outside Bastion

A new electronic parking space counter will be installed and piloted outside of Bastion Square Parkade this fall to improve customer service.

Additional counters will be considered for the future.





#### **Additional Parkade Improvements**

- Monthly parkers informed of new short-term parking spaces; asked to park on mid and upper levels (lower levels at Broughton Street Parkade).
- CRD elected officials with City of Victoria parking permit informed by letter to park in City parkades instead of on-street.





## Before...

Opportunity for improved first impressions.







# After

Clean entry ticket machine with clear and helpful information.





### Before...

Opportunity to professionalize and streamline booth signage.







Remove taped signs and replace with new decal.





## Before...

Opportunity to improve attendant booths.





# After

Newly painted attendant booths improve work environment, provide clear view lines, and help instill pride in service.





## **Education and Training**

City is committed to improving customer service and the parking experience downtown.

- City staff have undergone customer service training and participated in parking information sessions.
- Security guards provided same information with emphasis on SafeWalk role.









### **Benefits to Business**

#### Say Goodbye to Coupons

- No cost to businesses for first hour free in parkades
- Businesses can return any remaining "first-hour-free" coupons and be reimbursed at City Hall.
- Businesses can help promote reduced rates in City parkades, free evening and Sunday/holiday parking, and SafeWalk service to staff and customers to free up on-street parking.





There are nearly 2,000 on-street parking spaces downtown.

Historically, most of these spaces have had a rate of \$2.50 per hour with a 90 minute time limit.





To provide flexibility and choice to customers, starting on Monday, September 15:

- There are five parking zones ranging from \$1.50 to \$3 per hour with 90 minute to 24 hour time limits, in effect Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.
- On-street parking is free in the evenings from 6 p.m. – 9 a.m.
- On-street parking is free all day on Sundays and holidays.



Of the total 3,846 on-street and City parkade parking spaces:

- 62% (2,389 spaces) have decreased in rate
- 16% (620 spaces) have remained the same rate
- 22% (837 spaces) have increased in rate

78% of downtown parking spaces have decreased or have remained the same rate

22% of downtown parking spaces have increased in rate



**City Parkade and On-Street Rate Comparisons** 

City Parkade	<b>On-Street Near City Parkade</b>
Free for one-hour	\$3 for one hour
\$1 for 90 minutes	\$4.50 for 90 minutes
\$2 for two hours	\$3 for one hour



## **Downtown Victoria Parking Map**





- To add more time to parking space without exceeding the maximum time limit, pay for parking at a pay station within your parking zone.
- If maximum time limit reached, move vehicle to next block or park in a City parkade where the first hour is free.
- Zones are identified at top of pay stations and on parking space posts.







# Informing the Public

#### • Letters to stakeholders

- Tourism Victoria
- Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Victoria Business Association
- Victoria Downtown Residents Association
- Media
- Print and social media advertising
- Back of bus advertising (to reach motorists in their vehicles)



# Informing the Public

- **Parking brochure** (delivered to businesses, tourism, concierges, local venues, City Hall, etc.)
- Window decals (promote parking at City parkades, distribute to downtown businesses)
- Panels on pay stations
- New parkade signage
- SafeWalk wallet cards
- VicMap and City Blog
- victoria.ca/parking
- Email and letter to monthly parkers at City parkades
- Letter to CRD elected officials



# What's Next

- "Pay by Cell" coming this fall
- Art in Parkades
- Businesses to return "First-Hour-Free" coupons for reimbursement
- Review of parking enforcement model and contract
- Partner with DVBA to develop ambassador-focused training



# What's Next

- Engage frontline Parking staff on regular basis
- Renovation of Parking Review Office
- Continue installation of directional signs and painting of parkades; install parking space counter at Bastion
- Develop and install identification banners on parkades
- Increased parking information for public
- Increased cleaning and maintenance of City parkades



# What's Next

- Look at additional venues to reload City Parking Card
- Explore expanding speciality parking spaces in City parkades and on-street
- Explore potential advertising opportunities to increase revenue for ongoing parking improvements
- Ongoing monitoring and reporting (January 2015)





# Questions

