Other Community Parking Experiences

Park City, Utah

(Population: 8,467)

Park City is a vibrant place to be. With restaurants, retail stores, bars, offices, coffee shops and more – there truly is something for everyone. But what if all the people who worked or came downtown just left their vehicles vacant for hours at a time? Where would customers park? Local businesses would lose customers because they couldn't frequent their stores or restaurants. This is exactly what happened in the 1930's when parking enforcement first began. Customers in Oklahoma City could not get to local merchants. The parking meter was born as a way to protect customer access to local businesses.

Before December 15, 2017, parking was free in the Old Town area. There were inconsistent parking time limits, spotty enforcement, and confusing way finding/signage which results to increased congestion and vehicle miles travel due to drivers looking for parking. Free parking in Park City's most popular yet congested area did not support recommendations and strategies in the General Plan, Traffic and Transportation Master Plan, or the recently adopted Transportation Demand Management Plan which estimates that parking demand management can reduce vehicle miles traveled from between 10-15%. Lastly, private and public parking were not managed in a comprehensive manner which does not make the most effective use of the available inventory. As such, staff proceeded with the development of the Downtown and Main Street Parking and Management Plan.

Today parking enforcement not only helps foster customer access to local businesses but it also helps prevent traffic congestion by encouraging people to park once and walk to their destinations. This prevents traffic congestion in the downtown core and helps avoid unnecessary exhaust caused by idling cars. All this helps to ensure a vibrant and healthy downtown. One in which we can enjoy for generations to come. Permitted Parking also protects residents and their visitors from overflow parking associated with the many attractions and events that draw visitors to Park City. Permit parking preserves access to parking and quality of life for our residents.