



Seattle Department of Transportation

Gregory J. Nickels, Mayor

Grace Crunican, Director

December 4, 2008

SUBJECT: New Parking Plan for Fremont Area

Dear Fremont area parking stakeholders:

Fremont is a dynamic, exciting neighborhood, with a growing mix of retail, residential, and commercial activities. More activity brings increased parking challenges. In early 2008, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) began looking at the Fremont parking situation with neighborhood businesses and residents. SDOT issued a draft parking plan this past summer. After receiving and considering a substantial number of comments, SDOT is releasing this final parking plan (please see enclosed map).

To provide more reliable customer and resident access and to further the city's environmental and transportation goals, SDOT will make the following parking changes in early 2009:

- Two-hour paid parking in Fremont's retail core – about 12 blockfaces or roughly 115 spaces (of a total of about 700 spaces) – to promote more dependable parking turnover and access for customers in the highest demand areas and where compliance with time limit signs is poor
- Time-limit signs outside Fremont's retail core to promote better parking turnover
- Residential parking zone (RPZ) on streets north and east of the business district during daytimes and evenings

What are the specifics of the parking plan?

- Paid parking will be in effect from 8 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday. The parking rate will be \$1.50 per hour. In the 2009 adopted budget, the City Council increased the hourly paid parking rate citywide. While the downtown rate will be \$2.50 per hour, rates in Fremont will be at the lowest of three rate tiers.
- RPZ signs will be installed on one side of residential streets (the other side will remain unrestricted) with 2-hour parking allowed from 8 am to 8 pm for non-permit holders, and from 8 pm to midnight with no non-permit holder parking allowed. The RPZ will be in effect Monday through Saturday.
- Time-limit signs in unpaid areas will be in effect from 7 am to 6 pm, Monday through Saturday. On some streets near restaurants, time limits will continue until 10 pm.



Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue, Suite 3900, PO Box 34996 Seattle, WA 98124-4996

Tel: (206) 684-ROAD (684-7623), TTY/TDD (206) 684-4009, FAX: (206) 684-5180

Internet address: <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation>

An equal opportunity employer. Accommodations for people with disabilities provided on request.



- In the retail core, existing 30-minute Truck Load Only signs will be converted to 30-minute Commercial Vehicle Loading Zones where payment will be required and non-truck licensed commercial vehicles will be eligible to park. Please contact SDOT at 206-684-5086 for a commercial parking permit.
- 30-minute Load and Unload Only zones and 3-minute Passenger Load Zones will remain free and in their current locations unless an adjacent business or property owner requests a move.
- New late-night taxi zones will be installed near several restaurants.
- Existing bus stops and peak period parking restrictions will not change.
- Adjacent businesses or property owners can request signed motorcycle parking by calling SDOT at 206-684-ROAD.

Active monitoring

Shifting from free to paid parking can be a challenging transition for those not used to paying for parking. After installation, SDOT will monitor Fremont's parking conditions regularly to ensure that parking changes are working effectively, including in areas outside the retail core where the parking study identified increased demand. Additionally, SDOT will monitor compliance with 1-hour parking limits along North 34th Street between Fremont and Evanston Avenues North to ensure adequate turnover in these unpaid spaces.

Paid parking timeline

- Installation is expected to start in February.
- In January prior to installation, sidewalks will be marked to denote kiosk and sign locations.
- Temporary blue signs will be installed in advance to notify area parkers of coming changes.

Residential parking zone timeline

- RPZ and guest permits will be available starting in January.
- Eligible residents living within the RPZ zone boundary (see attached map) will receive an application in the mail separately in mid-December.
- RPZ signs are expected to be installed and will take effect in February.

For more information

If you have questions about this effort, please contact Mary Catherine Snyder, SDOT project manager, at 206-684-8186 or communityparking@seattle.gov. Information is available on-line at http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/cp_fremont.htm.

Sincerely,

CHARLES BOOKMAN
SDOT Director of Traffic Management

