



EXTENDING METER HOURS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

04.19.17

DOWNTOWN COMMISSION
BRIEFING



Making mobility better, together.



DOWNTOWN MOBILITY

- Free parking only benefits a few commuters.
- Best management practices call for space occupancy to remain under 85% of capacity.
 - ✓ Goal is to have 1 to 2 spaces available at all times
 - ✓ Limits traffic circulating looking for available parking
- In 2015 and 2016 space utilization surveys were conducted for parking in the core downtown, which showed:
 - ✓ In key areas, near activity centers of downtown core, over 85% of spaces were occupied on Wednesday night.
- Wednesday Night Surveys are being conducted again to confirm earlier findings.





RATIONALE

- Extending meter hours will improve mobility by:
 - ✓ Creating incentive for space turnover
 - ✓ Cutting down on traffic congestion
 - ✓ Providing more opportunities for customers of local businesses
 - ✓ Encouraging the use of underutilized off-street parking facilities
- Stakeholder parking surveys conducted between December 2015 and January 2016:
 - ✓ Two most popular suggestions were to install wayfinding elements and to raise meter rates.
 - ✓ Approximately – (19) Stakeholder Organizations
 - ✓ DAA sent a letter on January 16th of 2016 requesting implementation of Wednesday evening “extended hours”





STAKEHOLDERS

Between December 2015 and January 2016, ATD met with various downtown stakeholders to discuss the proposed Wednesday evening hour extension. Meetings included conversations with:

- Austin Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Austin Alliance
- UT Parking & Transportation
- Austin Hotel & Lodging Association
- Red River Cultural District
- ATX Safer Streets
- Stratus Properties
- ACL Live
- W Hotel
- AMLI Downtown
- Austin Restaurant Association
- Building Owners & Managers Assoc.
- Downtown Austin Neighborhood Assoc.
- Old Austin Neighborhood Assoc.
- LAZ Parking
- ABM Parking
- SP+ Parking
- Austin Music People
- Ridescout





DOWNTOWN EMPLOYEE PARKING

- In May 2016, Waller Creek Center Garage Facility came online with providing employee and musician parking.
- ✓ Approximately 200 Spaces
- ✓ Available 6pm to 5am
- ✓ \$35 per month
- ✓ On-site security
- One Texas Center Garage anticipated to be online for similar purpose this year.





STAFF PROPOSAL

Austin Transportation Department (ATD) is proposing to extend meter hours for City-owned, on-street parking spaces in the downtown area.

§ 12-3-5 - TIME LIMITS ON PAID PARKING.

(B) Paid parking time limits for spaces located within the area bounded by Lady Bird Lake, IH-35, 10th Street, and Lamar Boulevard are in effect from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday; 6:01 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. on **Wednesday**, Thursday and Friday; and 11:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, unless otherwise posted.

