



Urban Parking Partnership

In order to provide residents with additional off-street parking, the City of Long Beach has established an Urban Parking Program to help businesses, churches, and private owners set up parking programs that meet their needs, generate revenue AND provide parking spaces for area residents. Lot owners can list their properties on the Community Parking Program (CPP) website and determine the rules and fees. Customers can search the CPP website to find parking nearest to the location desired. The website facilitates the lot owner and customer to contact each other in brokering a deal. The City and SP Plus, a City selected parking vendor, will assist in publicizing a lot's availability and making the lot owners' generosity known to the community via the CPP website.

Please find following Frequently Asked Questions about this program.

How much can I charge for parking? The rate you charge for parking is at your discretion. We can let you know what similar lots in your area charge. If you start with a relatively low rate, you will be able to adjust your rates upward over time as the market will bear.

What can I do if people don't move their cars by the time I need to use the lot? Your contract and signs provided by the towing company will clearly communicate your hours and consequences of noncompliance. You may contact the offending parker or leave a notice of noncompliance on their vehicle for a first offense if you wish. If necessary, private towing companies will remove vehicles at the owners' expense. The City Parking Enforcement Division and SP Plus can assist you with this process.

How can I protect myself against liability if someone gets hurt on my property? Anyone parking on your lot is strongly encouraged to sign a contract/agreement including a release of liability to participate.

How should I pick who can park in the lot? Who parks in your lot is your decision. You could choose neighbors or customers or use a lottery, whatever best suits your requirements. Any car off the street opens up a spot for someone else in the community to park.

What is the best way to collect fees from those I allow to park in the lot? There are many options you may want to use to collect fees. SP Plus also offers a variety of parking management services to parking lot owners. Contact the SP Plus Office for more information and services available.

I'm happy to let someone use my lot but don't want to deal with any of the administration or enforcement. What are my options? SP Plus can provide services and refer you to a local towing company that could help with enforcement. SP Plus provides state of the art services for large and small parking lots/garages.

I need to use part of the lot. How could that work? The system is flexible. You decide when, where and how many spaces you wish to make available. Parking spaces can be identified using signage, striping or numbers to designate any part of your lot that you wish to open to parking.

I have some after-hours events, for which I want the lot to be open for participants. How can I make sure nobody is using the lot for parking during that time? If you have frequent after-hours programs, you may want to open parking only to the group of people who are regular participants in your program. That way no parking is taken away from participants. If your events are relatively infrequent, simply include in the contract a provision to close the lot on designated nights; with a reasonable notice provided to parkers of the date parking will be unavailable.

What if I decide later that I don't want anyone using my lot anymore? Either party with 30 a day notice may cancel the parking agreement. If you decided to end the parking program and you are handling your own billing simply contact your customers directly using either signs posted in the lot or mailing notifications or both. If you are using SP Plus services or any other operator they can cancel any accounts and restore your lot back to private use.

What is the City's goal for the program? Simple, make more parking available to the public. Many spaces around the City are only used for part of the day. A parking space left empty for even part of day is a wasted opportunity. The goal is to move parkers from the street to those unused spaces around the community. Every car that moves from the street opens up a parking space on the street. By using technology to match those available spaces to the people who want to park there, the business and groups around the city get a new revenue source and parkers can be assured of readily finding their parking space. As cars move off the street, more parking is available on the street. More parking benefits everyone.