



Date: March 31, 2015
To: Patrick H. West, City Manager *PHW*
From: Ara Maloyan, P.E., Director of Public Works *AM*
For: Mayor and Members of the City Council
Subject: **Smart Meter Installation Update**

On December 2, 2014, the City Council approved the purchase and installation of on-street single-space smart parking meters, which accept credit cards and coin, along with sensors that detect when a vehicle occupies a space. This memorandum provides an update with an approximate installation and completion, outreach efforts, and pilot testing of new mounted sensors.

Installation Schedule

While IPS, the manufacturer of the smart meters and sensors, had expected installation to occur in mid-to-late March, the delays at west coast ports affected the delivery schedule of critical parts. Since then, IPS has been working closely with City staff to expedite the installation of the smart meters.

The City currently has 1628 meters. Installation will begin approximately the week of April 20, 2015, and occur at a pace of approximately 350 meters a week. IPS will install the meters under the supervision of City staff. Installation will occur first in Downtown, followed by Second Street in Belmont Shore, and finally, The Pike. The current estimated completion of installation is May 22, 2015.

Once a meter is installed, the new rates take effect immediately. During this installation and transition period, Public Works will relax enforcement of parking meters to allow residents and visitors time to adjust to the new meters.

Outreach

Staff has reached out and arranged to speak at residential and business association meetings in Downtown and Belmont Shore to provide information about the installation schedule, the new rates, and to answer any questions attendees may have. These groups that City have staff contacted include the Belmont Shore Parking and Business Improvement Area Advisory Commission, Belmont Shore Residents Association, Downtown Long Beach Associates, Downtown Residential Council, East Village Association, and the Historic Old Pine Avenue Business Association.

Staff have also worked with IPS to create a pamphlet with instructions on how to use the meters for those users requesting additional information. Additionally, staff is working to develop a website that centralizes parking information, including on-street meters. Finally, staff is in discussion for a parking smart phone app that would include the on-street meters. These technological advances will occur after the installation of the meters and sensors.

Pilot Project on New Sensors

In addition to the smart parking meters, the City Council also approved the installation of sensors that will provide valuable data related to parking in Long Beach. At the time of approval, the City sought in-ground sensors. However, since December 2014, IPS released new technology of sensors directly mounted on the smart meter itself. This mounted sensor would not require coring a hole into the pavement for the in-ground sensor and, thus, would result in less work to replace the sensors over time. To ensure that these mounted sensors will meet the City's needs, the City is pilot testing these mounted sensors on 20 meters on the south side of Ocean Boulevard between Pacific Avenue and Magnolia Avenue.

The installation of these mounted sensors will occur with the rest of the new meter installations.

If you have any further questions, please contact Del Davis, Manager, Public Service Bureau at (562) 570-2780.

CC: Tom Modica, Assistant City Manager
Arturo M. Sanchez, Deputy City Manager
Jyl Marden, Assistant to the City Manger

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