



July 28, 2016

Parking Rates Remain At or Below Market

Effective on September 1, 2016, parking rates will increase as summarized below. Parking rates will continue to be at or below most private parking rates in the area. Rate changes are largely due to the need to recover unanticipated costs related to the Centennial parking ramp (see “Why Parking Rates are Increasing” section below).

If you park in a lot...	Your monthly parking rate will increase by \$4.23. Your new monthly rate is \$47.00 .
If you park on the top level of a parking ramp...	Your monthly rate will increase by \$9.81. Your new monthly rate is \$61.00 . ¹
If you park inside of a ramp...	Your monthly rate will increase by \$7.72. Your new monthly rate is \$82.00 .
If you park inside of a garage...	Your monthly rate will increase by \$15.12. Your new monthly rate is \$165.00 .
If your contract is for a motorcycle in a lot or ramp...	In a lot, your monthly rate will increase by \$0.68. Your new rate will be \$22.00 . In a ramp, your monthly rate will increase by \$0.98 and your new rate will be \$33.00 .

New Friday Only Rate

We are excited to offer a new **Friday Only Rate** in four parking facilities:

- Lot Q
- Centennial Parking Ramp (Purple Level)
- Ramp F (Upper Level)
- 14th Street Ramp

This Friday Only Rate program is intended for telecommuters or those normally using public transportation. This flexible option will help ensure full utilization of available parking throughout the week. Greater usage of all available stalls will help offset the need for future rate increases.

Reduced Rates for Public Transit Riders

Effective September 1, 2016, Metropass rates for state employees **who do not contract for a parking stall** will decrease by \$10. Those with parking contracts can continue to purchase Metropass cards at the \$76.00 reduced rate (full rate is \$113.50). Full details are summarized in the table below.

If you use Metropass and do not hold a parking contract...	Your rates will decrease by \$10.00. Your new monthly rate will be \$35 per month.
If you use Metropass in addition to purchasing contract parking...	Your rate will be \$76.00.

The construction of new parking structures on the Capitol Complex has created upward pressure on parking rates in recent years. Increased use of public transit as a substitute for parking reduces the growing demand for parking and parking construction, particularly as more state employees have been assigned to work within the complex.

The changes outlined above will make taking public transit to work the cheapest alternative (\$12.00 per month less than a parking lot contract). Increased use of transit will reduce demand for parking contracts and help restrain costs (parking stalls cost about \$25,000 – 40,000 per stall to construct).

Note: In April, Admin also introduced a discount on Nice Ride subscriptions for state employees who wish to bike to work. More information is available at mn.gov/admin/nice-ride.



Why Parking Rates Are Increasing

Parking is required to operate as a self-supporting business. Your parking rates cover the cost of operation, maintenance, needed upgrades to existing parking facilities, and construction costs for new parking facilities. When setting parking rates, our goal is to set rates at the minimum level necessary to recover costs and ensure parking facilities are optimally used and maintained.

The FY2017 parking rates cover unanticipated expenses for safety and stabilization work at the Centennial Parking Ramp. This includes more than \$650,000 for structural shoring that ensures the continued safe use of the facility, continued leasing of privately-owned parking spaces to accommodate displaced parkers (Lot X at Sears), and lost revenue from reduced parking contracts in the Centennial Ramp. In 2016 Admin requested and Governor Dayton and Lieutenant Government Smith recommended general obligation (GO) bonds to repair and restore Centennial Parking Ramp. GO funding to repair the ramp would allow Admin to avoid the costs described above.

Our Commitment to Customer Service

To keep parking costs as low as possible, it is essential to optimize the use of all parking stalls. Initial parking database upgrades occurring this year will provide essential data to help ensure stalls are available for all contract parkers without inventory going unused. Further, our team will continue pursuing technology and process improvements intended to both enhance the customer experience and maximize the use of available parking spaces.

Our introduction of new products and services, such as the Friday Only Parking Rate, Metropass discounts, and Nice Ride discounts will help to reduce the overall number of employees seeking parking contracts on the Capitol Complex. We believe that the steps outlined above are the most economically sound ways to ensure a safe and efficient parking and commuting system for years to come, and potentially, reduce parking rates over time.

Where to Find Additional Information

- Email your questions or comments to pmd.comments@state.mn.us or call us at 651-201-2300.
- Visit mn.gov/admin/buildings-grounds/ and click on "Parking and Transportation" for more information about parking and commuting services on the Capitol Complex.

Thank you for your continued use of our services.

¹ The separate top level rate for parking ramps will be phased out over the course of the next three years. Once this rate is phased out, all customers who park in a ramp will pay the same ramp rate. A separate top level rate is currently used in the following three locations: Centennial Ramp, Orange Level; Admin Ramp, Level F; and State Office Building Ramp, Top Level. The rate for the upper level of other Capitol Complex ramps is already the standard ramp rate.