



Victoria's New Pay-by-Space On-Street Parking

This year, the City of Victoria is replacing its 1,900 on-street parking meters with 250 computerized pay stations to make parking easier and more inviting for downtown visitors.

The new pay-by-space stations enable the public to purchase parking time from any pay station downtown by simply noting their parking space number. There's no need to display a receipt on a vehicle dash.

How do I use a pay station?

Using a pay station is easy.

- 1) Park and note your space number.
- 2) At any pay station, enter your space number.
- 3) Choose your method of payment (coin, credit card or the new City parking card).
- 4) Purchase the parking time you require.
- 5) Print and collect your receipt – there's no need to return to your vehicle.

A pay station's main screen will provide prompts throughout the transaction. A receipt will include your parking space number and the date and time of expiry. An additional receipt will be issued for credit card payments.

Why install a new system?

The City's current on-street parking meters have reached the end of their expected lifespan.

The new pay-by-space stations make short-term downtown parking more convenient, allowing you to:

- purchase time from any pay station downtown
- pay by coin, credit card or the new City parking card
- receive a parking receipt.

When will installation occur?

By the end of March, 27 pay stations will be installed downtown for testing and training purposes. A 30-day testing period will take place in April. Installation of the remaining pay stations is expected to begin in July and to be completed by the end of the year.

Where will the test pay stations be located?

Twenty-one pay stations will be installed around the Legislature in James Bay. Another six will be installed on Broad Street, between Pandora Avenue and View Street, replacing the existing pay and display parking meters. The two testing areas will provide residents, commuters, merchants and tourists an opportunity to use the new technology.

Existing parking meter heads will be removed and posts will be retrofitted with new signage. Each parking space will have its own clearly marked four-digit number. Spaces will not be marked on the pavement.

Eighteen bicycle racks will be installed in the James Bay test area at strategic locations. These racks will replace informal bike parking that occurs at meter posts. The City of Victoria is developing a comprehensive bicycle parking strategy that is expected to be complete within the next 6 – 12 months to provide for different types of bike parking at a variety of downtown locations.

When should I use a pay station?

A pay station is to be used for short-term, on-street parking downtown, Monday – Saturday, from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. unless otherwise posted. Most parking time zones allow you to park up to 90 minutes.

An added benefit of the new pay stations is that they allow you to prepay if you arrive downtown before on-street parking is enforced at 9 a.m. For example, if you arrive downtown at 8 a.m., you can park and prepay for up to 90 minutes. This will enable you to park until 10:30 a.m.

PHOTO CREDIT: SIEMANS AG

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

City of Victoria, Parking Services

T 250.361.0260

E parkingservices@victoria.ca

1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE, VICTORIA, BC V8W 1P6 | www.victoria.ca/parking



Will there be someone around to help me?

During testing, pay stations will be monitored by City staff and APARC, the supplier of the parking system. Parking officers and staff will be on site to assist the public and to record their questions and comments.

Will onscreen instructions be available in other languages?

The new pay stations have a button to display a selection of five languages onscreen. During testing, only English and French will be displayed.

How many pay stations will there be per street?

The number of pay stations installed on a street will depend on the size of a city block, but typically there will be one pay station for every 6 – 8 parking spaces.

How much does it cost for on-street parking downtown?

The current on-street parking rate is \$2 per hour. The City has no plans in the immediate future to increase on-street parking rates, and parking will continue to be free at on-street pay stations and City parkades on Sundays and statutory holidays.

Can I return to purchase more time?

You can return to any pay station to purchase more time, but only up to the maximum time in the area you have parked.

Repeat metering is not permitted. Maximum parking times help create new on-street parking spaces throughout the day for downtown visitors.

Can I use my current parking card in the new pay stations?

The new pay stations will not accept the City's current parking cards. During testing and transition to the new system, you may wish to hold on to your current parking card for use at single head meters.

New parking cards can be purchased at City Hall for a one-time administration fee of \$5, and parking time is available in \$25 increments. The new parking cards can be used at all pay stations for on-street parking. City parkades do not accept parking cards.

Once the transition is underway, you can trade in your existing card for a new one and the balance will be transferred.

Will the new parking cards work differently than the current ones?

The new pay stations will automatically debit the maximum time of the zone from a parking card. Before returning to your vehicle, simply insert your card into any pay station and you will be refunded unused time.

Without a receipt displayed, how will commissionaires know when my parking time has expired?

Parking officers will be equipped with handheld devices that communicate with the pay stations through a wireless connection.

Will there be specially marked parking spots for people with disabilities?

Single head meters for disabled parking spaces will remain in their current locations. The City's existing parking cards can still be used in these meters, and posts will be numbered to offer the option of using the new pay stations.

What are some benefits of the new technology?

In addition to increased payment options, the new pay stations are made of corrosion-free stainless steel and have an anti-graffiti coating. Improved security features should decrease vandalism and theft.

The system's wireless communications also enable City staff to better monitor the working condition of all pay stations and their payment transactions.

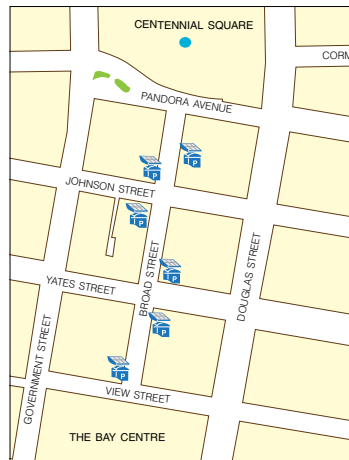
Solar-powered, the new pay stations are energy-efficient, reducing the use and disposal of batteries.

What is the City doing to introduce the new pay stations to the public?

During the test period in April, a demonstration pay station will be visiting venues and events in the Capital Region to provide opportunities for the public to try out the new system.



JAMES BAY TEST AREA



BROAD STREET TEST AREA

Note: Placement of pay station icons on maps is approximate.