



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
City of Duluth - Communications Office

411 West First Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55802
218-730-5230 | www.duluthmn.gov | Emily Larson, Mayor

For more information contact Pakou Ly, Public Information Coordinator 218-730-5309

DATE: 5/5/2017

SUBJECT: Duluth to Implement New Mobile Payment Service for Parking

BY: Pakou Ly, Communications Office

Duluth to Implement New Mobile Payment Service for Parking

[Duluth, MN] – Paying for parking at on-street meters and paid surface parking lots may soon be easier and more convenient around Duluth. The City of Duluth Parking Services Division is seeking City Council approval on an agreement with PassportParking, Inc. to provide parking payment services via mobile app and associated signage for all public on-street metered, off-street lot spaces, and off-street metered lot spaces in the city. The new services provide an expedient new option for customers to pay for parking using a mobile device.

Benefits to customers are: easy tracking of time allocation including reminder alerts thus reducing the chances of ticketing; a quick time extension process for parking spots which means no significant disruption to your activities when away from your car; reduces the need for carrying loose change; and most importantly, is a convenient way to manage your schedule and enjoy activities. In addition, under this contract, PassportParking will provide customer service and respond to inquiries or system service problems.

“We want our parking options to be both reliable and convenient. This new service demonstrates our commitment as a city to make it easier than ever for residents and tourists alike to enjoy everything we have to offer. As Mayor I get my fair share of parking complaints. I’m looking forward to people having this new option, and I’m excited that we’re moving this function into the digital age,” said Mayor Emily Larson.

Mobile payment technology is becoming increasingly common in municipalities throughout the country including the cities of Boston, Portland, Miami and in the Twin Cities.

The City hopes to have this capability ready for customers by July. Customers with a smartphone, other mobile or web-based application or device can download this new app and create an account. Installation of signage will be forthcoming and future public notifications will be issued when the app is available to download. There is no cost to download the mobile app.

Parking rules would still apply and customers cannot exceed the established maximum time limits for individual spaces at parking meters and surface lots.

#