

New Card & Coin Meters Bring Convenience and Reliability

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The City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) is installing new parking meters in your area to provide more convenient and reliable service. No more digging for change: these new meters accept credit cards, debit cards, and even gift cards—actually, any card with a MasterCard, Visa, or American Express logo. The solar-powered parking meters also use wireless communication to report their status and activity to staff, and send text alerts to instantly report jams to parking meter technicians in the field.

The new Card & Coin Meters are still located right next to your parking space and still accept coins the same way the old meters did, but now they offer the new convenience of card payments. On-screen instructions and simple payment buttons provide an easy, safe, and secure way to pay for parking with your card of choice. Parking rates, time limits, and hours are not changing and are now clearly displayed on the meter screen, which lights up at night when a card or coin is inserted.

The new meters are being installed as part of an initiative launched last month by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City Councilmember Tom LaBonge, and LADOT General Manager Rita L. Robinson to install 10,000 new Card & Coin Meters this summer in high-demand parking spaces throughout the City. When the installation is complete at the end of August, a total of 33% of the City's 40,000 metered spaces will accept credit card payments, and Los Angeles will boast the largest number of solar-powered parking meters in the country. The attached map highlights the areas in your neighborhood where meters are being upgraded to Card & Coin Meters during the next couple weeks.

Boasting two payment options, wireless alerts, and proven meter uptime of greater than 99%, the new Card & Coin Meters provide outstanding convenience and reliability. Accordingly, LADOT has instituted an important new enforcement policy to protect the integrity of the parking program. The Department's new "Pay to Park" policy for all Card & Coin Meters requires that **all drivers pay to park during metered hours unless otherwise exempt by law** (for example, those properly displaying a handicap placard according to the rules of use). If one form of payment (card or coin) is not accepted, **drivers must use another form of payment or move to another parking space to avoid a citation**. Bright red stickers placed on each new meter highlight the Pay to Park policy (see sample attached).

Many people don't know that most parking meter problems are caused by deliberate and criminal vandalism, which are misdemeanor violations with fines of up to \$1000 and/or up to one year in jail. This new policy has been put in place to help ensure that the new meters do not succumb to these crimes. LADOT asks for the public's support in keeping all meters working and all spaces available for the necessary turnover of public parking. Please report all parking meter vandalism and other meter-related issues by calling 311.

The attached information card provides additional details about the Card & Coin Meters. Please help get the word out by distributing this information to your residents, businesses, and customers. LADOT has a limited number of printed cards that can be provided to your organization by sending a request to LADOT.CardandCoin@lacity.org. This e-mail address can also be used for any questions or comments related to the Card & Coin Meters. LADOT values and appreciates your feedback.

