



Media Release

For Immediate Release
January 28, 2009

Parking rates to rise in business communities and on Saturdays

Parking rates will increase by \$0.50 per hour in areas outside Calgary's downtown and Saturday rates will increase by \$0.75 per hour.

Kensington, Uptown 17th, Inglewood, and 4th Street will see their parking rates rise as the next phase of rate increases approved by City Council in its November 20, 2008 budget is implemented. These business districts will also see their rates rise by \$0.25 in 2010 and an additional \$0.25 in 2011.

"We understand that no one likes to pay more for services they receive," said Dale Fraser, Calgary Parking Authority (CPA) General Manager. "However, City Council mandates the CPA to be price competitive."

The City of Calgary recognizes parking as a private good that should be paid for by the person who uses the parking space. This ensures that parking is not subsidized by taxpayers. The City's pricing policy is to set private goods at market value.

"The Parking Authority's rates are competitive," said Fraser. "Our adjusted 2009 rate remains 60 per cent less than the average price of hourly parking in Kensington and 4th Street, and 36 per cent less along 17th Avenue SW."

The CPA has contacted several business districts regarding the rate increase and will communicate with the others before the new rates go into effect.

The last rate increase in areas outside Calgary's downtown was in March 2007. The CPA operates 1154 on-street spaces in Kensington, Uptown 17th, Inglewood and 4th Street.

Last year the CPA contributed \$13.5 million to general city revenue. The CPA operates 5200 on-street spaces throughout Calgary.

About the Calgary Parking Authority

The Calgary Parking Authority fulfills the City of Calgary's parking mandates and implements the municipality's parking policies by managing on and off-street public parking facilities, enforcement programs and by providing parking advisory services.

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