

Enhancements Launched at Liberty Square and 4th & Washington

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The Ann Arbor DDA and Republic Parking are always working to improve the public parking system. With that goal in mind, enhancements are taking place at the 4th & Washington and Liberty Square Parking Structures. At these structures, Republic Parking is finalizing the installation of new automated pay station equipment and signage and introducing employee ambassadors. At Liberty Square it also brings hourly parking after nearly a decade of permit only parking. This change opens up yet another option for State Street shoppers and residents, further reducing the parking pressures in the State Street area.

"The pay stations will function similarly to the new Library Lane Structure and the 5th and William Lot" says Art Low, Republic Parking District Manager, "Our community seems to be getting comfortable with this technology and appreciates that it keeps entrance and exit lines to a minimum."

To park as an hourly customer at these facilities, patrons will pull a ticket as they enter and will need to take their ticket with them. Automated parking pay stations are located in the elevator lobbies on both the Liberty and Washington sides of the Liberty Square structure, and in the ground floor elevator lobby in the 4th & Washington structure. As patrons return to the parking structure, signs will direct them to a pay station where they will be guided to insert their ticket and payment into the machine. After paying, patrons can proceed to their vehicle and exit the facility by inserting their ticket at the exit gate. To answer questions about this new equipment, Republic Parking will have ambassadors at the entry gates and at the pay stations to assist as needed.

"This change brings staff to the structure and is a model that allows Republic Parking to serve as ambassadors and to circulate around the parking structure, rather than being tied to a booth," says Joe Morehouse, DDA Deputy Director. "Their presence, along with foot traffic created by hourly customers, is expected to create a more constant presence throughout the parking deck." Republic Parking will continue to offer monthly parking permits at Liberty Square as available.

The mission of the Ann Arbor Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is to undertake public improvements that have the greatest impact in strengthening the downtown area and attracting new private investments. For more information on DDA programs and projects visit www.a2dda.org

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