## Edward M. Augustus, Jr. City Manager



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## City of Worcester To Complete City Wide Parking Improvement Program With Multi-Space Meters, Pay-By-Plate and Pay-By-Phone App

**Worcester** – The City of Worcester announced today that it will complete a city-wide parking conversion from single space meters to multi-space meters by January 3, 2022.

In April of this year, the Department of Public Works and Parks introduced a pay-by-plate and pay-by-phone parking system in the Canal District powered by Flowbird Group and Wescor Parking Controls. By eliminating single space parking meters and replacing them with the Flowbird Strada smart kiosks, the City has been able to better manage parking turnover and enforcement.

"We first implemented the new parking system in the Canal District in anticipation of the increased volume of parkers driven by the Worcester Red Sox and other events at Polar Park," said Mark Kostovski, Parking Manager for the City of Worcester. "Combined with an on-street signage package and added enforcement, the program proved successful, enhancing the customer experience and providing the City with real time on-street parking data."

The City will begin removing single space meters throughout the remainder of the City on Monday, December 6. The process is expected to take two weeks with 120 on-street and surface lot pay stations to be installed before the end of the month. Effective January 3, 2022 parking rates will change from \$1.00 per hour to \$1.50 per hour and both pay-by-plate and pay-by-phone methods will be available. With the Passport application, parkers will get notifications of time expiring and have the ability to extend parking from the convenience of their phone. The Passport Parking app is free to download from the App Store and Google Play. Users can also manage their parking online at <a href="mailto:passportparking.com">passportparking.com</a>. To assist parkers in the first two weeks of the transition, LAZ Parking, the City's parking vendor, will deploy street ambassadors to help with the technology and hand out collateral.

For more information, visit <u>www.parkworcester.com</u>. A video introduction is also available at youtu.be/diDUKENjcNY.

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