



News from

Council President Todd Gloria

City of San Diego

NEWS ADVISORY

For immediate release: October 30, 2014

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City's First Smart Parking Meters Installed This Week *Contract Approval Was Council President's Final Act as Mayor*

SAN DIEGO (October 30, 2014) – Council President Todd Gloria will be available to the media at 11:30 a.m. today to discuss the installation of San Diego's new smart parking meters.

This week, 200 traditional coin-operated single space meter heads are being replaced with smart meters, allowing customers to pay for parking with credit cards. The meters also allow the City to collect better utilization data to inform and guide parking meter operations and Community Parking District strategies and policies.

Smart Parking Meters Installation

WHO: Council President Todd Gloria
Representatives from the Office of the City Treasurer
WHAT: Media availability about new smart parking meters
WHEN: TODAY, October 30, 2014 at 11:30 a.m.
WHERE: 200 block of Fifth Avenue under the Gaslamp Quarter sign in Downtown San Diego

This advancement is the result of Council President Gloria's last act as the Interim Mayor on February 28, when he agreed with the City's Purchasing Agent to enter into a cooperative procurement contract via the City of Sacramento for the purchase of meters from IPS Group, Inc.

"Bringing smart parking meters to San Diego was on the short list of things I wanted to accomplish during my tenure as Mayor, and I know San Diegans and visitors will notice the improvement this week upon their installation," said Council President Gloria. **"San Diego is a city of innovation and people here should not resort to the antiquated practice of searching for coins for parking meters. With more user-friendly parking meters, customers will be able to more easily patronize the small businesses throughout Downtown, Uptown, and Mid-City, contributing to the economic development of our City."**

Approximately 97% of San Diego's parking meters are being replaced. The new technology would allow customers to pay for parking with credit cards. The smart meters use the City's existing meter poles, making installation easier and preserving useful current infrastructure. Smart meters are being installed first in the Gaslamp, then other areas of Downtown. Uptown and Mid-City meters will soon follow with completion of installation in early 2015.

The contract with IPS Group, Inc. is for an initial term ending December 2018 and may allow for extensions. The cost of the parking meters was \$3.8 million.

As the installation of the new meters nears completion, the City will initiate a pilot project to provide customers with the capability to pay by mobile phones. This will give the City a chance to test out the technology while providing another convenient payment option to our customers.

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