

Date: June 3, 2026

To: Mayor and Members of City Council
From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager
Subject: Report on Parking Payment Infrastructure

202601755

Reference Document #202601065

City Council, at its session on March 8, 2026, referred the following item for review and report.

MOTION, submitted by Councilmember Jeffreys, WE MOVE that the administration produce a report in the next 30 days on the following: Estimate the one-time cost to remove all blighted, broken parking meters (similar to the attached pictures) that are present across the city; Share any data on current parking revenue from those blighted, broken parking meters sports compared to the average parking revenue per spot.

OVERVIEW

The Department of Public Services (DPS), Parking Division has a parking payment infrastructure that includes single space parking meters, multi-space parking payment stations, and signage indicating payment by mobile application. The City has approximately 2,265 parking meters and 164 multi-space pay stations presently in use. Decades ago, the City had 8,000-coin operated parking meters throughout the City and as parking demand changed, these coin operated meters were removed and often the associated pole was left in place.

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT – METER POLES

Since the movement of the Parking Division to the DPS in 2025, DPS has made a concerted effort to remove the known inventory of meter poles without meter infrastructure utilizing its existing workforce. Beginning in August of 2025, DPS Traffic and Road Operations and the Parking Division collectively removed 895 meter poles spread throughout the City but with heavy concentration in the Uptown neighborhoods, OTR and the Central Business District.

DPS does not have a remaining inventory of meter poles that do not have an active parking meter. If residents identify a meter pole that does not have a meter head on it, they can submit a request to add/remove parking meter through www.311cincy.com and the Parking Division will evaluate the request and whether to add a meter or remove the meter pole based on parking demand in the area.

INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT – PAYMENT INFRASTRUCTURE

Having clear signage and functional payment infrastructure is critical to a successful on-street parking operation. The Parking Division is working to replace 456 single space meters in OTR and

the Central Business District and replace them with multi-space parking payment stations. The associated meter poles will be removed during this process once these meters have been removed and parking payment stations installed. Mobile payment will continue to be a payment option during this process. This effort will be completed by the end of the calendar year.

The Parking Division will also be reviewing paid parking areas during the summer of 2026 to determine whether these areas have sufficient demand for additional paid parking infrastructure. Any infrastructure additions will be completed with existing parking infrastructure resources.

Finally, the Parking Division has issued an RFP to expand parking payment options to include text to pay and QR code payment as well as new mobile payment options. The Administration is in negotiations with a vendor selected through this RFP and will be undertaking a refresh of the signage and mobile parking payment infrastructure in late 2026 early 2027.

SUMMARY

This report is for information purposes only and no action of Council is required.

Cc: Mark Riley, Director of Public Services