

Parking in Wilton Manors - History

Parking along Wilton Drive has been an issue for quite some time. With the wonderful growth and popularity of businesses along the Drive, parking is scarce not only during peak evening hours, but also during daytime hours in many areas. The City has been taking many steps to address parking issues. Alleviating the problems will require multiple actions that will be phased in over time.

Hiring of Parking Management Company

In 2009, the City hired a consultant to perform a parking study to identify the current inventory of parking spaces and make recommendations for improving the situation. The study recommended an overall Parking Management Program for the City, with a professional parking management contractor. Such contractor will be paid out of parking revenues so as not to impact other City finances. After soliciting proposals, in February 2010, the City hired Lanier Parking Company to manage the City's Parking Management Program. Lanier is an international company based in Atlanta with strong experience in managing municipal parking programs as well as management of parking in hospitals, sports arenas, office buildings and other venues. Its clients include the cities of Louisville, KY; Richmond, VA; Durham, Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach, NC; and Myrtle Beach, SC, as well as the Las Olas City Centre and Wachovia Tower in Fort Lauderdale. Lanier is currently working with our staff on the details of the parking program.

Implementation of Paid Parking at Meters and Parking Lots

To regulate parking along the Drive in April 2010 parking meters were installed along Wilton Drive and a few intersecting side streets to supplement the paid parking already in effect at the Richardson Park and Hagen Park/City Hall Parking Lots. Parking is \$1.00 per hour. There is a \$7.00 maximum nightly charge from 6:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m.

Enforcement of paid parking is now in effect. Enforcement hours are:

Meters:

9:00 am until 3:00 am every day.

Parking Lots at Hagen Park/City Hall, Richardson Park, and NE 8th Terrace:

Free parking until 6:00 pm every day.

Paid parking from 6:00 pm until 3:00 a.m. every day.

There is no enforcement of paid parking for attendees at meetings of the City Commission and other City boards and committees that require public notice for their meetings.

Parking Permits for Users of City Parks

The City Commission wants to promote the continuing use of City Parks without penalizing participants in Parks programs with hourly parking charges. Parking will continue to be free until 6pm Monday through Friday at the parking lots at Hagen and

Richardson Parks. An annual parking permit for parks users will be available for all participants in sports, classes and programs at Hagen Park. The permits are good through December 31 each year for a one-time fee of only \$5.00. They allow parking only while using the park facilities during regular park hours.

Free Parking on City-Observed Holidays

The City will not enforce paid parking on the following City-observed holidays:

New Year's Day
Martin Luther King Day
President's Day
Memorial Day
Independence Day
Labor Day
Columbus Day
Veteran's Day
Thanksgiving
Friday after Thanksgiving
Christmas Day

New Parking Spaces Added

The demolition of the old City Hall provided many new parking spaces for patrons of the City Parks, City Hall and the businesses along Wilton Drive. There are now 213 parking spaces available to the public at the Hagen Park/City Hall Parking Lot.

On April 30, 2014 the City opened a new 42-space parking lot on the corner of NE 26th Street and NE 8th Terrace. This lot will provide the north end of Wilton Drive with much-needed additional parking.

Smart Meter Trial Period

The City is currently testing 30 "smart meters" in busy locations along Wilton Drive and NE 11th Avenue. These meters accept both coins and credit cards, and they provide the parking office with realtime transaction data. Send us your feedback on these new meters at wiltonmanors@lanierparking.com.