



BACK BAY PARKING AND CURB ACCESS CHANGES

*City of Boston Streets Cabinet
Updated April 2024*

1. OVERVIEW

I. BACKGROUND



Map produced by members of NABB identifying locations of meters. Red meters were requested for removal, blue meters were requested to remain.

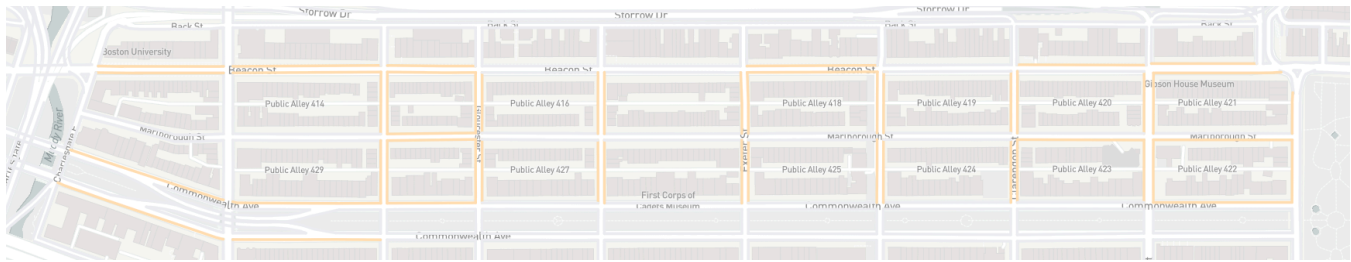
The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay (NABB) requested the removal of 234 single space parking meters in the Back Bay neighborhood. The Association submitted a map detailing the location and in some instances context for why the meters should be removed. The map above shows the locations requested, with the red meters requested for removal and the blue meters suggested to remain.

II. DATA COLLECTION

The Boston Transportation Department (BTD) conducted a parking study to better understand the parking and curb access demand on these blocks. Parking studies can tell us the parking occupancy, or the % of parking spaces in which a vehicle is parked at a given time, and parking duration, or for how long a vehicle is parked. Parking occupancy helps us understand demand for parking, and parking duration helps us to understand how often parking spaces are turning over, and how many vehicles are able to utilize the space.

A parking study was conducted by BTD staff using the Coord Collector IOS app. The first three digits of each vehicle's license plate was entered into the app and it calculated occupancy % based on the the number of available parking spaces and the number of vehicles counted. The first three digits of a license plate provided information on each vehicle which was used to calculate the length of time a vehicle was parked in the same space.

Vehicle counts were conducted every hour for a period of 10 hours, from 8am-6pm, on one weekday and one weekend day. Data was collected on 51 blocks, or a total of 3.9 curbs miles. The area studied is bordered by David Mugar Way/Arlington Street to the East; Commonwealth Ave to the south; Charlesgate E to the west, and Beacon Street to the north. The map below shows an overview of the study area. Vehicle counts were conducted on the blocks highlighted in yellow.



Map of study area, blocks that were studied are highlighted in yellow

III. INVENTORY OF EXISTING CONDITIONS

At the time the study was conducted, the study area had 1,476 to 1,509 on-street spaces where a vehicle could legally park or stop for periods of time, depending on the time of the day and day of the week. This included 871 to 1,093 resident permit parking spaces, 7 to 376 unrestricted parking spaces, and 0 to 585 metered parking spaces. Accessible parking, pick-up/drop-off, loading, and other parking types made up the remaining spaces. The table below shows the breakdown of parking regulations, number of spaces, and by time of day.

Time	Resident Parking	Unrestricted Parking	Accessible	Metered Parking	Pickup Dropoff	Loading	Other	Total Spaces
00:00 - 01:00	1093	372	17	0	0	3	15	1502
01:00 - 02:00	1093	372	17	0	0	3	15	1502
02:00 - 03:00	1093	372	17	0	0	3	15	1502
03:00 - 04:00	1093	372	17	0	0	3	15	1502
04:00 - 05:00	1093	372	17	0	0	3	15	1502
05:00 - 06:00	1093	372	17	0	0	3	15	1502
06:00 - 07:00	1093	372	17	0	0	3	15	1502
07:00 - 08:00	1093	365	17	0	0	3	15	1498
08:00 - 09:00	871	7	16	574	1	9	15	1498
09:00 - 10:00	871	7	16	579	1	9	15	1503
10:00 - 11:00	871	7	16	579	1	9	15	1503
11:00 - 12:00	871	7	16	579	1	9	15	1503
12:00 - 13:00	871	7	16	585	1	9	15	1509
13:00 - 14:00	871	7	16	585	1	9	15	1509
14:00 - 15:00	871	7	16	585	1	9	15	1509
15:00 - 16:00	871	7	16	585	1	9	15	1509
16:00 - 17:00	871	7	16	550	3	9	15	1476
17:00 - 18:00	871	11	16	546	3	9	15	1476
18:00 - 19:00	1093	363	17	13	0	3	15	1509
19:00 - 20:00	1093	363	17	13	0	3	15	1509
20:00 - 21:00	1093	376	17	0	0	3	15	1509
21:00 - 22:00	1093	376	17	0	0	3	15	1509
22:00 - 23:00	1093	376	17	0	0	3	15	1509
23:00 - 24:00	1093	376	17	0	0	3	15	1509

2. FINDINGS

The results of the parking study highlighted areas where parking meters were not being utilized, and areas where parking meters appeared to be parked full but vehicles were parking for long periods of time. The study also identified areas where parking meters appeared to be working as intended, where there was a high demand for parking and parking turnover that averaged less than two hours per vehicle. We used this information to inform our decision on where to remove parking meters, what parking regulations to put in place when parking meters are removed, and for parking meters that remained, adjusting parking meter policies to better meet demand. A summary of the data results can be found [here](#).

3. PARKING CHANGES

I. SUMMARY

The Boston Transportation Department will remove 125 parking meters. Changes to parking and curb access will include (123) new *Back Bay Resident Permit Parking* spaces. For the meters that remain, (60) will become *30 Minute Metered Parking* spaces for deliveries and quick trips, (25) will turnover to *Back Bay Resident Permit Parking* from 6pm-8am, and (78) will change to be *in effect* from 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday.

# of Meters Removed	125
# of New 24/7 RPP	123
# of New 6p-8a RPP	25
# of New 30 Min Metered Parking	60
# of Meters extended to 8pm	78

II. BLOCK BY BLOCK REGULATION CHANGE DETAIL

Block	Regulation Changes
A) Beacon St - Mass/Charlesgate E	There are 49 parking meters on this block, 22 parking meters are being removed, (21) will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking and (1) will become no stopping; for the parking meters that remain, (18) parking meters will change to be 2 Hour Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday, (10) parking meters will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
B) Beacon St - Hereford/Mass	There are 4 parking meters on this block, (4) parking meters are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking

C) Beacon St - Gloucester/Hereford	There are 17 parking meters on this block, no parking meters are being removed; for the parking meters that remain, (13) parking meters will remain in effect 8am-6pm Monday-Saturday and become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking 6pm-8am, (4) parking meters will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-6pm Monday-Saturday and change to be Back Bay Resident Permit Parking 6pm-8am
D) Beacon St - Dartmouth/Exeter	There are 23 parking meters on this block, (16) parking meters are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking; the (7) parking meters that remain will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
E) Beacon St - Berkeley/Clarendon	There are 21 parking meters on this block, (16) parking meters are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking; the (5) parking meters that remain will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
F) NS Beacon St - David Mugar/Berkeley	There are 18 parking meters on this block, (1) parking meter is being removed and will become No Stopping; for the meters that remain, (15) parking meters will change to be in effect from 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday, (2) parking meters will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
G) SS Beacon St - Arlington/Berkeley	There are 25 parking meters on this block, (18) parking meters are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident parking; the (7) parking meters that remain will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
H) Marlborough St - Berkeley/Clarendon	There are 15 parking meters on this block, (7) parking meters are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking; of the parking meters that remain, (5) will remain in effect 8am-6pm Monday-Saturday and become RPP 6pm-8am, and (3) will become 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-6pm Monday-Saturday and RPP 6pm-8am
I) Comm Ave - Arlington/Berkeley	There are 22 parking meters on this block, (9) parking meters are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking, in addition 5 No Parking Except Commercial Vehicles spaces are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking for a total of 14 new RPP spaces; for the parking meters that remain, (8) parking meters will change to be in effect 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday, (5) parking meters will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
J) Marlborough St - Gloucester/Hereford	There are 6 parking meters on this block, (6) parking meters are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking
K) Comm Ave - Gloucester/Hereford	There are 17 parking meters on this block, 12 parking meters are being removed (11) will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking and (1) will become No Stopping; the (5) parking meters that remain will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
L) Comm Ave - Hereford/Mass	There are 14 parking meters on this block, no parking meters are being removed; for the parking meters that remain, (10) parking meters will change to be 2 Hour Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday, (4) parking meters will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
M) N Comm Ave - Mass/Charlesgate E	There are 20 parking meters on this block, (11) parking meters are being removed and will become Back Bay Resident Permit Parking; for the parking meters that remain, (4) parking meters will change to be 2 Hour Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday, (5) parking meters will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
N) S Comm Ave - Mass/Charlesgate E	There are 28 parking meters on this block, no parking meters are being removed; for the parking meters that remain, (25) parking meters will change to be 2 Hour Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday, (3) parking meters will change to be 30 Min Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday

III. BLOCK BY BLOCK REGULATION CHANGE QUANTITIES

Block	New Regulations				
	24/7 RPP	30 Minute Metered Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday	30 Minute Metered Metered Parking 8am-6pm Monday-Saturday / RPP 6pm-8am	2 Hour Metered Parking 8am-6pm Monday-Saturday/ RPP 6pm-8am	2 Hour Metered Parking 8am-8pm Monday-Saturday
A) Beacon St - Mass/Charlesgate E	21	10			18
B) Beacon St - Hereford/Mass	4				
C) Beacon St - Gloucester/Hereford			4	13	
D) Beacon St - Dartmouth/Exeter	16	7			
E) Beacon St - Berkeley/Clarendon	16	5			
F) NS Beacon St - David Mugar/Berkeley		2			15
G) SS Beacon St - Arlington/Berkeley	17	7			
H) Marlborough St - Berkeley/Clarendon	7		3	5	
I) Comm Ave - Arlington/Berkeley	14	5			8
J) Marlborough St - Gloucester/Hereford	6				
K) Comm Ave - Gloucester/Hereford	11	5			
L) Comm Ave - Hereford/Mass		4			10
M) N Comm Ave - Mass/Charlesgate E	11	5			4
N) S Comm Ave - Mass/Charlesgate E		3			25

4. CONTACT

This parking study, report, and parking and curb access plan was developed by the New Mobility Team in the Policy & Planning Division within the City of Boston Streets Cabinet. For more information you can send an email to newmobility@boston.gov or call 617-635-4680.