



MAYOR DAVID J. NARKEWICZ

**City of Northampton
Office of the Mayor
210 Main Street Room 12
Northampton, MA 01060-3199
(413) 587-1249 Fax: (413) 587-1275D
mayor@northamptonma.gov**

For Immediate Release – July 24, 2020

City of Northampton Parking System to Resume Full Operations on August 3, 2020

NORTHAMPTON - Today, Mayor David J. Narkewicz announced that the City of Northampton's parking system will restart Monday, August 3, 2020. All time limits and fees for on-street and off-street parking throughout the city will be enforced by parking officials.

This change comes as a measure of economic activity is returning to the city's business districts. As Massachusetts has transitioned to a less restrictive phase as part of the Governor's reopening plan, the city has seen greater demand for parking. With efforts by the city to stimulate the downtown economy, the opening of outdoor and some indoor restaurant dining, restricted retail, and the availability of other services, the parking system plays an important management role in the turnover of available parking spots.

"It's time to restart the system," said Mayor Narkewicz, "Across the city, people have understandably been parking for longer periods of time in prime spots our businesses need to turn over every two hours. Getting the system going now and resuming enforcement is the right thing to do in advance of students returning to the area in late August, even if at reduced levels."

Parking enforcement officers have been enforcing all non-fee related parking restrictions, including (but not limited to) handicap parking, no parking zones, parking in crosswalks, spaces reserved for city officials, fire hydrants, and 15 minute parking spots since July 1. Beginning August 3, all parking systems including meters, pay-by-plate parking kiosks, and the parking garage will be operational, and fees and time limits will be enforced.

Residents and visitors are urged to read the posted signs and instructions before parking in order to avoid being ticketed for violations.

For more information, please contact the Mayor's Office at 413-587-1249 or mayor@northamptonma.gov.