



**Carl J. Florea**  
Office of the Mayor  
City of Leavenworth

September 21, 2020

Community Members,

I would like to let all of you know about some construction activity you may see in the downtown core and in our parking lots in the coming weeks. As the result of a parking management study completed in 2018, the City is installing new kiosks and sensors in the parking lots and new paid parking meters along with sensors on downtown streets. This City project has been managed by a diverse Parking Committee made up of council members, residents, merchants, and city staff. The construction will be visible and no doubt will lead to questions. I will try to answers some of these questions here.

**What is happening?**

The City has contracted with a leading supplier of smart meters, Civic Smart, for the installation of new kiosks in our parking lots and new meters in the downtown core. This means that there will be a few vans and at least one trailer around as this construction occurs. Phase 1 involves the installation of new kiosks and sensors in the various parking lots owned by the City. Phase 2 will involve installation of parking meters and sensors in the downtown. It is estimated that both Phases will be completed in 5 weeks, barring no unforeseen hurdles.

**When will this construction take place?**

Tentatively, beginning late next week, the construction crews will begin kiosk installation in the parking lots in the following order: P1, P4, P2 and P3. We will also be installing sensors only in the pool parking lot and the lot behind City Hall. Those two lots will not have meters or require payment, but will be managed to enforce time limits already established for those lots. Once this first phase is completed, the contractor will begin construction in the downtown core. We will release the schedule of affected areas for meter installation next week after further discussion with contractor.

**What disruption can I expect in Phase I?**

We will see construction activities at the various lots. We may have to rope off some parking spaces or even the entire parking lot. We will have more details on the city's website, Facebook, and Twitter. For community members that really want to stay updated, we highly recommend visiting social media and our website.

**What disruption can I expect in Phase II?**

Because the crew will need space to work on specific areas at a time, we will rope off sidewalks and streets. The goal will be to rope off only as much as can be completed in a day and not to keep any area roped off longer than absolutely necessary. Disruption to outdoor seating will be inevitable, but again, not for long in any spot. The City will inform affected businesses a week in advance so that furniture can be removed. Furthermore, the Committee has requested that the 800 and 900 blocks of Front Street be done later in October. Art in the Park will run until October 18 so it is likely that work on the 800 block of Front Street will be done last. Again, more details will be available next week on the City's website, Facebook, and Twitter.

**When will I need to start paying? How much?**

Even though the meters will be installed by November, they will not be functional. The Committee is in the process of hosting listening sessions on this matter. In previous listening sessions, Committee members have stated that the meters are not likely to be functional in 2020. Parking rates have been discussed but have not been set. The Committee is sharing different options with the public and will provide a recommendation to the Council. The Council will adopt rates through the regular rate

setting process. For now, parking will remain free in the downtown core and charged only in the large lots as it is now.

### **So why install meters now?**

The City had purchased the meters prior to COVID and had originally intended to activate them this summer. COVID changed that timeline, but it was felt that it was still prudent to do the installation now. Activation has been delayed due to concerns with business vitality and further disruptions on top of the changes we have seen due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

### **How do I get more information?**

Again, this is meant to just give you some of the basics. As with all projects like this, there will be changes along the way. That is why you are encouraged to check our social media sites for the most up-to-date information:

Follow us in Facebook and Twitter @BavarianTown

Visit our website: [www.cityofleavenworth.com](http://www.cityofleavenworth.com)

### **Plan to Attend the Virtual Open House / Public Meeting**

This Wednesday, September 23rd, beginning at 6:00 PM, the Committee will be holding another public meeting to both inform the community of the latest plans and to continue to gather community input and answer questions. The Zoom info for that meeting is found below, and also on the City's website.

#### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81421049175?pwd=bIN6a1VET3c3S1NJOWJia1Jta25kZz09>

**Meeting ID:** 814 2104 9175

**Passcode:** 890830

**As always, if you need more information or have further questions,**

please feel free to contact the City Administrator, Ana Cortez. (509) 630-4157.



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