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Contact:

Gary A. Means
Executive Director
Lexington & Fayette County Parking Authority (LFCPA)
101 East Vine Street, 5th Floor
Lexington KY, 40507
859.233.PARK (7275)
gmeans@lfucg.com

**Parking Authority announces parking improvements
along with future meter rate increase.**

The Parking Authority is currently installing several multi-space pay stations this fall throughout downtown and the University of Kentucky area. These new meters will have 3 or 4 payment options, including coin, cash, and credit/debit card. The Parking Authority will also upgrade remaining electronic meters to allow additional payment options and customer service features.

On April 9, 2008, the Lexington and Fayette County Parking Authority voted unanimously to increase the parking meter rates from twenty-five cents (\$.25) per hour to one dollar (\$1.00) per hour. The rate increase was planned for sometime in the fall of 2008 after major customer service and technological improvements are in place.

On Wednesday, October 8, 2008 the Parking Authority Board voted to delay the meter rate increase until January 1, 2009. This delay was an effort to ensure that the new forms of technology and payment options are fully in place prior to any rate increase. Additionally, parking on some streets on the edges of downtown will only increase from (\$.25) per hour to (\$.50) per hour.

The new state-of-the-art technology as well as the increased enforcement which began July 7, 2008 will make it more convenient for people to park downtown by promoting high parking turnover. The multi-space meters improve the streetscape by eliminating "meter clutter" and will add to the ongoing revitalization of the downtown area. Additionally, the multi-space meters will be solar powered.

It has been twenty-five (25) years since the meter rates were last increased. In 1983, the rates were increased from five cents (\$.05) per hour to the current twenty-five cents (\$.25) per hour. This meter rate increase brings the City owned meters in line with the meter rates at the University of Kentucky and the Lexington Center Corporation (Rupp Arena) which are both at (\$1.00) per hour or (\$.25) for fifteen minutes.

The Lexington and Fayette County Parking Authority was created by ordinance (ARTICLE XIII Sec. 2-178, Res. No. 300-80, § 1, 10-16-80; Ord. No. 329-2005, § 1, 12-13-05) in December 2005, with the five-member board appointed in June 2006.

The Lexington & Fayette County Parking Authority Mission

To provide, maintain and operate adequate, high-quality, customer-focused public parking and encourage economic growth for the benefit of the residents, businesses and visitors of Lexington & Fayette County.