



Airport Parking Prepayment

INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS IN THE PORTLAND METROPOLITAN REGION

New payment technology saves travelers time at the toll booth.

BENEFITS

Mobility: Visitors spend less time waiting in line to pay for airport parking.

Cost effectiveness: Less cash handling and fewer staff hours needed in parking payment booths.

Air quality: Reduced idling has cut emissions of carbon monoxide by an estimated 2.26 tons per year.

Drivers pay for their mobility in a variety of ways, including gas, tolls, and parking. In each case, the cost includes not only the price but also the time spent waiting in line to pay. This delay represents a nuisance to the consumer, a business risk for the vendor, and often a source of environmental harm, considering the emissions from idling cars. At Portland International Airport, the exit plaza from the parking facility involved all three of these problems as well as an opportunity to achieve some labor efficiency.



Drivers with prepaid parking tickets enjoy shorter queues when exiting the airport.

The solution is a system called Quick-Pay that allows drivers who park at the airport to pay for parking between the terminal and their cars, as pictured below. By pre-paying, drivers are allowed to bypass the queue at the exit plaza. According to Airport Parking Manager Steve Koester, “the transaction time at the exit plaza has dropped from 1 minute to just 13 seconds.” With 80 to 85% of customers now using the QuickPay system, the appeal of saving time and fuel is apparent.

While the QuickPay system represents a time savings for customers, it also has environmental benefits. Carbon monoxide emissions from cars coming to the airport are estimated to be reduced by 2.26 tons per year as a result of decreased idling at the exit plaza. The system is also a good business model for the airport, allowing staff freed from ticket booths to provide other, more appreciated, customer services.



“QuickPay” kiosks allow airport visitors to pay for their parking before getting into their cars.



For more information, visit www.metro-region.org

