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Joél Ramos | Director

Edward D. Reiskin | Director of Transportation

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paul.rose@sfmta.com****PRESS RELEASE******SFMTA Releases SFpark Android App***App provides real-time parking availability and rate information*

SAN FRANCISCO—The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA), which oversees all surface transportation in the City, today announces the release of its SFpark Android application. The SFMTA now provides real-time parking availability and rate information for SFpark pilot areas via Androids, iPhones, SFpark.org, and a garage-only text message service. The data is also available as an open data stream for outside developers. SFpark, a federally funded pilot project run by the SFMTA, uses new smart parking management technologies and pricing policies to make it easier and faster to park in San Francisco. Better management of parking will open San Francisco's streets and result in cleaner air, improved safety and faster Muni times.

"Cities around the world are combating parking and traffic congestion problems," said Mayor Edwin M. Lee. "With SFpark, San Francisco is the first city in the world to pursue a comprehensive parking-based approach to congestion management and greenhouse gas emission reduction that will also support local merchants. Multiple mobile options make this solution easy and convenient."

"When customers can see where parking is available and how much it costs, they make better decisions about where and when to drive," said Edward D. Reiskin, SFMTA Director of Transportation. "Steering drivers to blocks with open parking spaces reduces time spent looking for parking, which eases traffic, reduces pollution and allows Muni to be faster and more reliable."

By reducing circling and double-parking, SFpark is intended to improve safety for all users of the road. As with the SFpark iPhone app, every time customers launch the Android app, they will see a warning reminding them not to use a smartphone while driving. While the app is open, it shows an additional reminder if the phone is detected moving faster than 10 miles per hour.

The Android app can be downloaded at SFpark.org/Android.

The iPhone app, which was released earlier, is available at SFpark.org/iPhone.

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SFpark.org provides customers the ability to see parking availability and cost before heading out the door. The mapping tool on the home page shows location, high, low or medium availability and rate information for garages and on-street parking spaces within the pilot areas. Currently 13 of the 15 SFpark garages have data in the real-time feed.

The SFpark apps use the same data feed to provide a great mobile option. By also providing a real-time data feed to the public, application developers and companies, such as Google and in-vehicle navigation systems, can also distribute this data to drivers. Two third-party applications have been developed since the feed went live in April.

The SFpark pilot covers 7,000 of San Francisco's 28,800 metered spaces and 12,250 spaces in 15 of 20 SFMTA-managed parking garages. These garages and spaces are located in the following neighborhoods: Civic Center, Hayes Valley, the Financial District, SoMa, the Mission, Fisherman's Wharf, the Fillmore and the Marina. The SFpark pilot is 80 percent funded by the United States Department of Transportation's Urban Partnership Program and will run until summer 2012.

For more information, please visit sfpark.org.

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Established by voter proposition in 1999, the SFMTA, a department of the City and County of San Francisco, oversees the Municipal Railway (Muni), parking and traffic, bicycling, walking and taxis. With five modes of transit, Muni has approximately 700,000 passenger boardings each day. Over 35,000 extra vehicles enter San Francisco on any given business day, and rely on the SFMTA to keep the flow of cars, transit vehicles, taxis, delivery trucks, pedestrians and bicycles moving smoothly through the streets.