

## **MULTI-SPACE ON-STREET PARKING METER INFORMATION**

Multi-space metered pay stations are designed to make it easier for any driver who parks on the street by letting them use credit cards to pay for meter time. These pay stations are the most common ones drivers use when parking in Minneapolis.

Unlike traditional meters, each parking space will not have its own meter. A multi-space pay station covers one side of a city block and each parking space will have a unique number, which will be entered into the nearest pay station. Drivers can pay for their time using credit or debit cards, along with the usual cash option of quarters or dollar coins. Also, they'll be able to pay for their parking space number at a different pay station other than the one on the same block face, if more convenient or if the closest pay station is not working properly.

Parking pay stations provide other advantages, too. They're programmable, and have the ability to handle variable rates at different times. The pay stations warn drivers of "tow away" zones during peak periods so motorists know that they need to move their car by a certain time and also will not allow motorists to pay during these time periods.

Parking pay stations are solar powered and transmit real time data on metered parking usage to the Traffic Control Agents and Minneapolis' traffic and parking engineers.

The parking pay stations are more cost effective for the City. Handling transactions electronically means there is less of a need to empty meters. Plus, the pay station communicates when it is full of coin which means crews will spend less time collecting money.

These pay stations were chosen as a result of a selection process that included written proposals and a six-month field test along Minneapolis streets.