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## **First Weekend of Charleston's Increased Parking Enforcement Sees Only Eight Cars Towed**

**Charleston, S.C.** – The Charleston Police Department's increased weekend parking enforcement measures on King Street began as scheduled last Thursday night, and over the course of the first weekend, only eight cars had to be towed from the prohibited street spaces along King. No cars were towed on Thursday night, two were towed on Friday night and six were towed on Saturday night.

The weekend parking rules are part of the Police Department's larger King Street Safety Plan, which also includes stepped-up police patrols, better lighting, and changes in the street's traffic pattern.

"Having only eight cars towed during the first weekend of enforcement is a promising start," said Captain Jason Bruder of the Charleston Police Department. "Our objective is to educate motorists on the parking rules and to avoid having to tow any cars. We are confident that the measures we have put in place, such as increased signage, warnings, and alternative parking options, are proving effective."

The weekend parking enforcement measures include warning flyers, meter bags, flashing message boards, blocking off empty spaces, and informational flyers for surrounding businesses to share with patrons and employees.

The enforcement of the parking rules will continue each Thursday, Friday and Saturday night, along King Street between Spring and John streets from 6 p.m. to 3 a.m. Motorists are encouraged to park in other designated areas to avoid being towed. The weekend parking enforcement also aids the city's Public Service Department's street sweeping operations.

Alternative, discounted parking for this area is available at the Visitor Center Garage, located at 63 Mary Street. This garage offers a \$7 flat rate fee after 3 p.m. and a \$5 flat rate fee after 5 p.m. The discounted evening rate ends at 3 a.m. and reverts to the regular garage rate (\$1 per half hour). Additional parking at the \$1 per half hour rate is available at the Midtown Garage (558 King Street) and Marion Square Garage (399 King Street).

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