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For Release: December 11, 2017

City of Charleston Department of Traffic and Transportation Releases New SmartCards for Updated Parking Meters

Charleston, S.C.—The city of Charleston department of traffic and transportation is in the process of updating the peninsula's 1,709 parking meters to accept credit cards in addition to coin and SmartCard payments. To date, more than half of the meters have been updated.

Due to the updated technology, the new meters are not able to accept the same SmartCards as the old meters.

Beginning today, the new smartcards are available to be purchased for \$15 at the Revenue Collections office (180 Lockwood Drive) or the Visitor Center (375 Meeting Street). Once purchased, money can be added to the SmartCard for use of parking at metered spaces.

Those with old SmartCards can transfer their existing balance to a new card, which they will receive at no cost. Additionally, residents who wish to retain both cards until all meters have been updated can do so by transferring only a partial balance.

A benefit of SmartCards is that users are able to receive a refund of unused time from their meters back onto their SmartCards.

Director of Traffic and Transportation Keith Benjamin said, "With each of these meter updates, the city of Charleston is working to create more convenient parking opportunities for its residents and workers. Providing additional payment options through credit cards and SmartCards is a significant step in that direction."

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