

Parking Series Introduction

Parking is an essential component to the transportation system. Excessive parking has been a common mistake among developments that consequently promote sprawl, auto-dependency, traffic congestion and environmental and aesthetic harm. Many of the current parking facilities throughout our region are used inefficiently and should be better managed. Parking design should be efficient, safe, maintained and located in the proper areas. This series includes photos of several different examples of both good and poor parking design. While viewing these photos you may choose to consider how the following keywords apply to each photo. Then, consider how these keywords may apply to similar, present and future parking facilities within your community.

Type:	Keywords:
Good	efficient use of space; encourages other travel options: users pay for the facilities they use, promotes smart growth; located below, behind, or above a structure; parking structure; peak demand-management; quality versus quantity: aesthetics, security, accessibility; sized and managed for frequent use; transit oriented development
Poor	automobile priority; excessive number of parking spaces; increased impervious surface; inefficient use of space; lack of attention or maintenance; major cost to society; no vegetation or landscape; not pedestrian friendly; parking in front with – shopping in back; promotes sprawl and non-contiguous growth; unused space