

23 September 2009

SECURITY CHARGING TO START AT RAIL STATION PARK AND RIDE

A \$2.00 per car per day security charge will be introduced at the Papakura Rail Station Park and Ride on Monday October 5.

The charge offsets the cost of providing a security monitoring service for motorists who use the car park in Ron Keat Drive. Charges apply during the week in daytime hours when security is provided and there is no charge for using the car park at weekends.

Three “pay and display” ticket machines have been installed in the car park, ensuring all users have a ticket machine close to their chosen park space. The machines will be identical to those now in use in downtown Auckland, and will offer text-to-pay and credit card options as well as cash payment. Tickets issued by the machines must be clearly displayed inside the car and Papakura’s parking wardens will be enforcing the new parking rule from October 5.

The Park and Ride is used by both Papakura residents and commuters from outside the District. It has the highest use statistics of any car park in Papakura. A user survey in August 2009 found that numbers of users from outside the District are on the rise: 65 per cent of users surveyed said they lived in Papakura, the other 35 commuting to the District from other areas.

In September 2008, 74 per cent of users were from Papakura, 21% from Franklin and 5% from Waikato.

One user is known to travel all the way from Thames to use the car park; another comes all the way from Te Awamutu on a regular basis and uses the Park and Ride while at work in the city.

Charging directly for providing security at the car park is seen as a fairer way of recovering the cost of providing a service that is used by both locals and people from other districts. The low daily flat rate will still encourage public transport use.

Other free all-day car parks in the town centre are Davis Car Park at the northern end of Town, ground floor of the two-level indoor car park at Accent Point in East Street and the Farmers Car Park accessed from O’Shannessey Street in the centre of town. The Farmers Car Park also offers the same security services as the Park and Ride.



MEDIA RELEASE

Responding to suggestions from users of the Park and Ride, the Council has improved the area with new rubbish bins, landscaping, fencing and wheel stops. Work to improve the surface at the northern end of the car park is also under way. For cyclists who use the train, additional secure cycle parking has been provided.

Car park users have been made aware of the coming change by flyers placed under the windscreens of cars parked there in recent weeks, along with advertisements in local media and notices posted on the Council web site. There are also posters at the car park entrance.

More than a month's notice of the change has been provided.

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For further information please contact:

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