As the 2014-2015 academic year prepares to kick off at the University of Houston, you should be aware of numerous changes that have taken place on campus that directly affect parking and mobility. Parking and Transportation Services strives to keep the campus community updated and informed on all such changes to the parking landscape that directly affect students, faculty and staff. For all the latest information, be sure to visit our website, like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

**Lot 15B** — This faculty/staff ungated lot that sits next to the south side of Hofheinz Pavilion is being eliminated to make way for the construction of a state-of-the-art basketball practice facility. The lot is scheduled to be closed permanently prior to the start of the fall semester.

**Alley Theatre on campus** — The Alley Theatre will perform its entire 2014-2015 season on the UH campus in the Wortham Theatre. To accommodate its staff and patrons during this time, 215 spaces in the center of lot 16B have been converted to metered spaces during the day and will be turned over to the Alley and UH Arts patrons after 4 p.m. Lot 16C will remain faculty/staff parking during the day, but after 5 p.m., it will turn over to the Alley Theatre and UH Arts. Lot 16F has been converted from visitor parking into a gated lot that will be used for Alley Theatre staff parking. The far southwest corner of lot 16B is now student parking.

**Lot 19D** — Sometime in October, this ungated faculty/staff lot to the west of Calhoun Lofts will be closed permanently so construction work can begin on the new Multidisciplinary Research and Engineering Building. Those who have reserved spaces in 19D are being relocated.

**Parking around the stadium** — The completion of the new football stadium means approximately 600 new spaces will return to the fold this semester. The lots that surround the stadium will require a student (fall/spring or fall) parking permit, except for a section behind the stadium that is designated for ungated faculty/staff parking.

Parking and Transportation Services is now partnering with Zipcar, a global car-sharing company, to provide UH faculty, staff and students the opportunity to reserve vehicles as necessary in exchange for “driving credits.” A great resource for the UH community, Zipcar has four vehicles located at various buildings across the University to allow quick and easy access for everyone, regardless of where they are on campus. Anyone interested in participating is encouraged to fill out an application at www.Zipcar.com/UH. Applicants who are approved will receive $35 in driving credits after they pay the $25 annual fee.
The opening of TDECU Stadium this fall means the return of Cougar football to campus. With a large amount of visitors expected during game days, parking and transportation for faculty, staff and students will be impacted on the following dates:

* Friday, August 29
* Saturday, September 6
* Saturday, September 20
* Thursday, October 2
* Friday, October 17
* Saturday, November 8
* Saturday, November 22

For the latest game day parking information, including specific road, lot and garage closures, visit [www.uh.edu/pts/parkgameday.htm](http://www.uh.edu/pts/parkgameday.htm).

Be sure to check back regularly for updates throughout the season.

**Cougar Line Shuttle Service**

Parking and Transportation Services operates the Cougar Line shuttle service to provide parkers convenient and efficient access to campus from economy parking lots, including ERP. Additionally, the Campus Loop route provides circulator service around the campus.

The Cougar Line service is free for students, faculty and staff. When you board, please swipe your Cougar Card to provide PTS with timely and accurate rider information. This data will help PTS monitor and adjust service levels to meet rider demands.

Cougar Trax provides real-time GPS predictions for bus arrivals at all scheduled stops. To obtain arrival times, or for more information on shuttle service, visit [www.uh.edu/cougartraxmobile](http://www.uh.edu/cougartraxmobile) on your smart phone or mobile device or [www.uh.edu/cougartraxpublic](http://www.uh.edu/cougartraxpublic) on your laptop or computer.
EXCITING OPTIONS WITH METRO

There’s some exciting things on the horizon with METRO that will benefit the UH community, including a new rail line and the ability to get a METRO Q-Fare Card right here on campus!

LIGHT RAIL
The Southeast Line, also known as the Purple Line, is a new light rail line that will service the campus. It is expected to open at the end of December and will run six miles from the Theatre District in downtown to the Palm Center Transit Center in southeast Houston. In between, there are three stops adjacent to campus: the corner of Scott and Elgin, on Scott behind the new football stadium, and on Wheeler near Calhoun. The line will also make convenient stops at Minute Maid Park and BBVA Compass Stadium. Visit www.gometrorail.org for more details.

BUSES
Eight METRO bus routes offer local service to the University of Houston. Connecting via transit centers to a network of additional local Park & Ride routes, the buses provide service across the Houston metro area.

Using METRO allows you to save gas and skip the frustration of traffic. Commuters using Park & Ride service along the Gulf Freeway corridor can connect to campus via the Eastwood Transit Center and ride the Cougar Line campus shuttle. All other Park & Ride routes will connect to local routes at the Downtown Transit Center.

Q-FARE CARDS AND DAY PASSES
METRO offers Q-Fare Cards to students. These cards are reloadable and are used to pay fare on METRO buses and rail with a 50 percent discount. Very soon, students will be able to purchase their Q-Fare Cards right here on campus through a simple and easy online process that will allow them to pick up their cards the next day. In addition, METRO-Day Passes will also be available for purchase in the same way. Check the Parking and Transportation website at www.uh.edu/parking as more details become available!

ERP - THE BEST PARKING SPOT

On any given weekday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., campus parking nears its capacity. Finding an available parking spot is a hunt that will cost you time and unnecessary frustration. Avoid circling the parking lots and park at ERP instead.

ERP (Energy Research Park) is part of the University of Houston. It is located at 5000 Gulf Freeway, a mile from campus and connected via frequent UH Cougar Line shuttle service. During classes, the shuttles operate on a 10-minute frequency, providing continuous service between the ERP parking lots and the University Center.

With more than 800 parking spaces, including designated areas for faculty/staff, student permits and economy permits, parking at ERP during these peak hours often proves to be faster and closer than searching for a spot on campus.

To learn more about ERP, including directions, visit www.uh.edu/pts/parkerp.htm.
Avoiding a citation is not difficult and can save you time, money and frustration. Here’s some quick information on citations and appeals:

**CITATIONS**
The most common citation is for not displaying a valid permit. Buy your permit early, make sure you always show it when parking on campus and know which parking areas your permit is valid.

If you forget your permit, stop at the parking information booth at Entrance 1 on campus or at the PTS customer service counter at the Welcome Center Garage to obtain a temporary permit. Remember that Economy parking permits are valid in economy lots only. Economy Plus permits are valid in student lots after 5 p.m. Student and Economy Plus permits allow for parking in most faculty/staff lots after 5 p.m.

If paid within five days of issuance, violations V1-V7 and V10 are discounted based on a sliding discount scale. After 21 days, any unpaid citation doubles and transfers to your student account. You can’t register for classes, graduate or even request a transcript if you have an outstanding balance on your student account. Ignoring a citation won’t make it go away.

Parking on the grass is never legal. A parking space must be enclosed on three sides by either paint or curbs. If it’s not, then it’s not a parking space. Just because someone else is parked in the same area doesn’t make it legal to park there.

**TOWING**
Reserved spaces are reserved 24 hours a day. If you park in a reserved space without a vald reserved permit, your car may be towed. Additionally, parking in a fire zone or in a handicapped space without a handicapped placard will result in a citation and your vehicle may be towed. RHE (Residence Hall Exclusive) lot 21A is reserved for RHE permit holders only. Any car parked in an RHE lot without the valid RHE permit will be towed. If your vehicle is towed, you will be charged for the citation plus a tow fee. In order for your vehicle to be released, you must pay the charges or make alternate financial arrangements.

**APPEALS**
You have the right to appeal any citation you receive. Appeals must be filed online within 21 days of issuance. To file an appeal, log in to your parking account and select the citation you want to appeal.

Appeals are reviewed by an independent court of student, faculty and staff representatives. After your appeal is reviewed, the decision will be emailed to the address specified when you filed the appeal. If you lose the appeal and payment is due, you must make payment within 21 days to avoid the amount doubling and transferring to your student account.

**RULES AND REGULATIONS**
A complete list of parking rules and regulations, including parking rates and citation information, is available on the PTS website at www.uh.edu/parking.

**UH PARKING DICTIONARY**

**Driving Lane** - A portion of a parking lot used for the movement of vehicles. Not a valid parking location. Vehicles parked in a driving lane will be ticketed.

**Economy Permit/Lots** - An Economy permit allows for parking in any Economy lot only. Economy lots are the pink shaded lots on the parking lot map.

**Economy Plus Permit** - An Economy Plus permit allows for parking in Economy lots during the day. After 5 p.m. and on weekends, an Economy Plus permit may be used to park in any student lot or other non-reserved spaces.

**Handicapped Space** - A parking space designated for individuals with both a state-issued handicapped placard and a UH handicapped parking permit.

**Loading Zone** - An area typically marked by a green curb used for deliveries. Parking overtime in a loading zone will result in a citation being issued.

**Parking Lot Signs** - Large white monument-style signs at the entrance to parking lots indicating the type of lot and valid permits for that lot type.

**RHE** - Residence Hall Exclusive (RHE) lots are reserved lots for on-campus residents displaying a valid RHE permit. Cars parked in an RHE lot without the valid permit will be towed. RHE lots are the orange lots on the parking lot map.

**Student Permit/Lots** - A Student permit allows for parking in any unreserved student lot (blue or pink lots on the parking lot map). After 5 p.m., this permit may be used to park in most faculty/staff gated or ungated lots (tan or green lots on the map).