



City of Omaha
Jim Suttle, Mayor

Office of the Mayor
1819 Farnam Street, Suite 300
Omaha, Nebraska 68183-0300
(402) 444-5000
(402) 444-6059

For Immediate Release
Smart Meters Modernizes Parking
in Old Market and Downtown

April 9, 2013 – Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle and the City’s Parking Manager, Ken Smith announced today that the City is installing 400 smart parking meters. These meters will provide payment options for those parking their cars in the Old Market and Downtown. The new high-tech solar-powered M5 meters from IPS Group, Inc. offer users a choice to plug their meters with either credit cards or coins.

Until today motorists have been limited to paying for parking with coins. The next installation of 600 meters will bring the total of new meters to 1,000 and installation will continue to focus on the heavier utilized areas between the Old Market and Civic Building.

“The additional payment features should be welcomed by both customers who are no longer limited by the number of quarters in their pocket and merchants who won't have to make change,” said Ken Smith, City Parking Manager.

“We believe that offering these options will improve compliance at parking meters, increase revenue for the City, and decrease the number of tickets issued to motorists,” said Mayor Suttle.

The meters are wirelessly networked to a web-based management system which can alert the City in the event of required maintenance or fault. As a result, meter uptimes consistently average 99.8% or above, which means fewer customer complaints.