

Parking Options for Downtown Mystic

While we welcome residents and visitors enjoying all that Mystic has to offer, and appreciate the support for our local businesses and nonprofits, it has placed growing pressure on the parking supply. The Towns of Groton and Stonington jointly commissioned a study to identify effective parking strategies to better manage and improve parking conditions for customers, visitors, employees and residents of Downtown Mystic.

Over the past three years there has been extensive outreach and review, which ultimately got us to this point. One of the key recommendations from that work was to implement paid parking in downtown Mystic. After approval at a Town Meeting in the Summer of 2024, there is now a mechanism for taking the paid parking concept from idea to implementation.

Below is a proposal for how to approach paid parking in downtown Mystic. After discussion with residents in the Fall of 2024, this plan could be modified and then brought to the Board of Police Commissioners for further discussion and potential approval. Once this is completed, other areas of the community will be examined in greater detail to see if they could benefit from paid parking. For now, the focus is on downtown Mystic as the area of Stonington that residents have expressed the most concern over the past years.

Zone 1- Commercial District

- 3-hour Parking; \$3/hour
- Hours: Daily 8am-8pm
- Everyone pays, aside from handicap spaces
- Streets:
 - Cottrell St – E. Main St. to Washington St.
 - Washington- Cottrell St to Willow St.
 - Holmes Street – E. Main St. to Forsythe St.
 - East Main Street – Drawbridge to Broadway Ave.

Zone 2- Village District

This Zone includes the streets that are within about a 5-minute walk to the commercial area, but are residential homes. This area has been included to ensure those seeking free parking do not barrage these residential streets.

- 3-hour Parking; \$3/hour
- No Time Limit
- Visitors pay¹; Handicap spaces are free; Stonington residents are free².
- Streets:
 - Haley Street – Cottrell St. to Willow St.
 - Stanton Place – Cottrell St. to Willow St.
 - Washington Street – Cottrell St. to Broadway Ave

¹ Criteria and execution for potential Guest Parking Pass Permit is TBD.

² Stonington enforcement can scan plates. If they are registered in Stonington will not be charged.

