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**PUBLIC INVITED TO LEARN HANDS-ON
ABOUT SMART PARKING METERS
Three Vendors to Demonstrate Feb. 24**

The Missoula Parking Commission invites the public to attend an open house to learn first-hand about the latest on-street meter technology. Three vendors will bring their single-space and multi-space meters and showcase the unique features of their hardware and software. The Parking Meter Open House will take place Tuesday, Feb. 24, from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Missoula Downtown (200 S. Pattee St.) in the Three Rivers Room.

This meter modernization project began in early March, 2014, with an extensive public process assessing new parking technologies for Downtown Missoula. Throughout a year's worth of public meetings, citizens had a chance to learn about the need to replace the current mechanical meters, which are more than 60 years old and difficult to maintain, with new on-street technology that will offer multiple payment options and significantly improve efficiencies in operation. Parking Commission leadership also held numerous small-group stakeholder meetings and asked for comments in a survey format.

All of the public involvement helped to form the specifications for the Request For Proposal that the Parking Commission issued in November.

A Selection Committee made up of representatives of downtown retailers and property owners, City Council, City staff and the Parking Commission narrowed the responses to three vendors. The Committee felt it is important to allow the public an opportunity to talk with the vendor

representatives and have hands-on demonstrations of the single-space and multi-space meters. Public comment forms will be available for the public to submit their opinions to the Selection Committee.

The Parking Commission Board of Directors and staff strongly encourage the public to participate in this important phase of the meter modernization process, and they look forward to continuing the Parking Commission's role in "connecting our community" to a quality parking experience for Downtown Missoula.

The Missoula Parking Commission is a department of the City of Missoula. Its director and staff manage public parking and enforce City parking ordinances in greater Downtown Missoula. To learn more about the Parking Commission's work, visit its web page on the City of Missoula website at <http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/462/Parking-Commission>.

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