

Performance Parking Pilot Back Bay Update

June 2017

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Pilot goal and program elements
- Initial findings
- Next steps



Go Boston 2030



Goal:
Eliminate roadway fatalities.

In 2016, we had nearly two dozen roadway fatalities.



Goal:
Reduce average commute times by 10%.

Current average commute time is 28.8 minutes.



Goal:
Ensure every home is within a 10 minute walk of the subway or a key bus route, bike share and car share.

Currently, 42% of Boston homes meet this standard.

“

Performance Pricing will help us manage parking spots more efficiently, reducing congestion, gridlock and distracted behavior by drivers

”

- Mayor Martin J. Walsh

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The Problem: Metered spaces were not turning over

Cheaper to overstay meter limit and risk ticket than go off-street.



The Problem: Metered spaces were not turning over

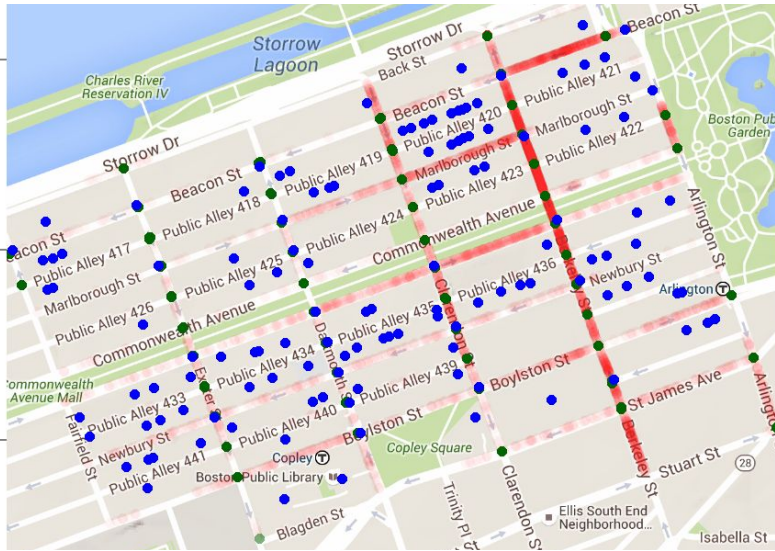
Motorists looking for spots circle the block, adding to street traffic



Vision
Zero 
City of Boston

The Problem: Metered spaces were not turning over

Motorists looking for parking double park, slowing traffic in travel lanes



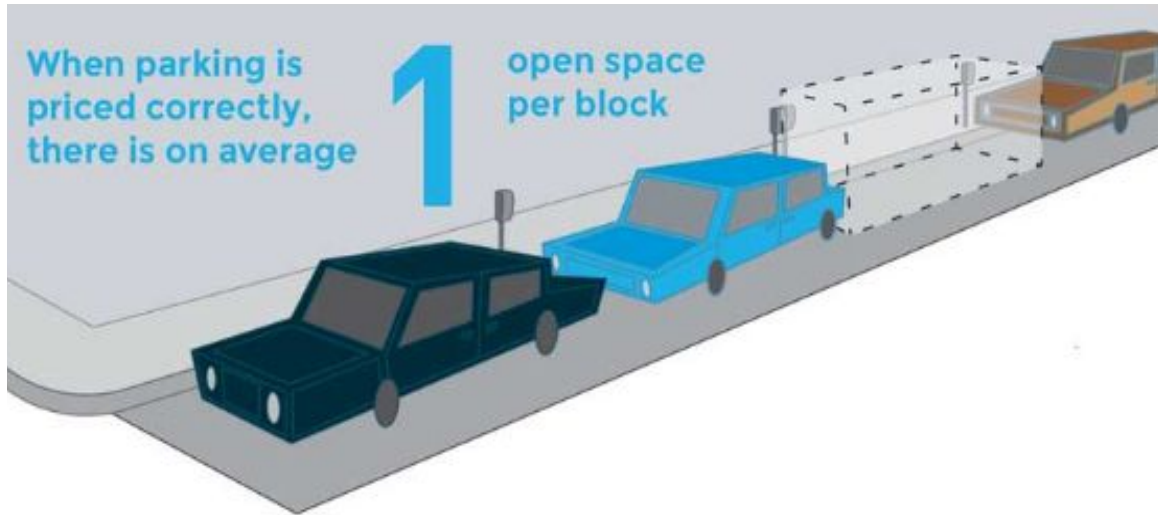
311 Requests for Parking Enforcement

Waze Traffic Jams

Waze Double Parking

The Goal

One Space Open Per Block



Increase the probability that an interested parker will find an open space the first time they try; cutting down on unnecessary circling and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as distracted driving.

The Goal

One Space Open Per Block

- *Improving experience for short-term parkers*
- *Increasing turnover*
- *Decreasing double parking*
- *Shifting demand*
- *Reducing traffic congestion*
- *Maintaining traffic to businesses and other destinations*

Parking Rates

1981

50 cents → \$1

*Meters hand adjusted by
Transportation Staff*

3500 metered spaces

2011

\$1 → \$1.25

8000 metered spaces

2017

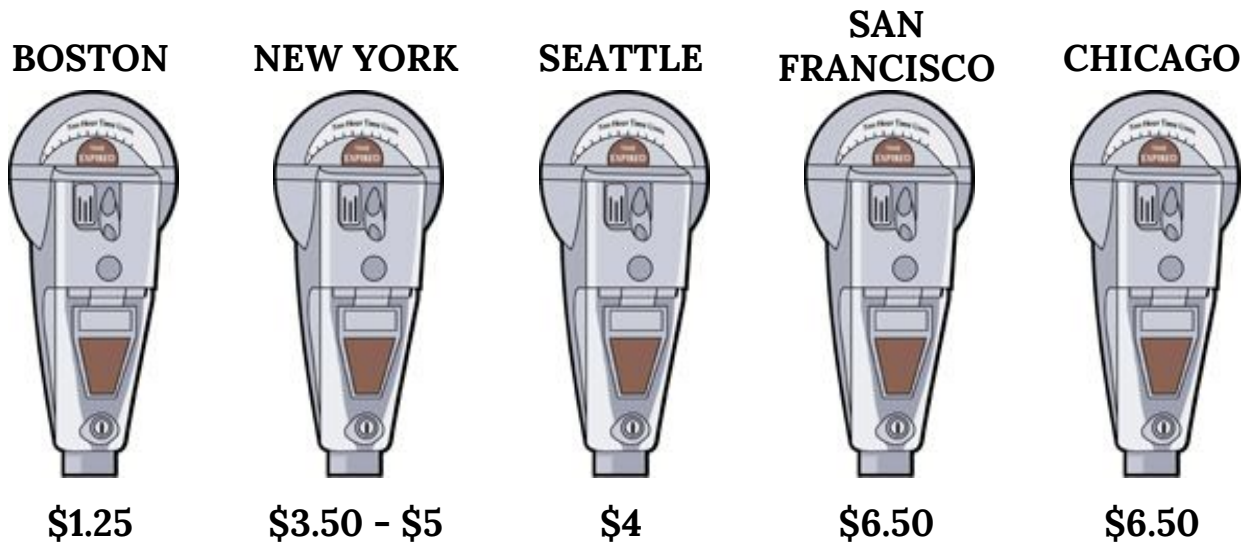
Performance Parking Pilot

- *\$3.75 - Back Bay*
- *Dynamic - Seaport*

Pilot impacts 2200 spaces

*Technological
improvements - credit
card, ParkBoston*

Price of Parking in US cities (top rate)



Why a flat increase?

→ **\$2.50: 2 hrs on street** + **\$25 ticket for overstay** < **\$35+ for garage parking**

→ *Relatively even demand throughout the day*

→ *Consistent parking congestion across entire area*

Back Bay Pilot



1650 metered spaces: \$1.25 → \$3.75 per hour



Blocks were 90 percent occupied



Goal 60-80 percent occupied (1-2 spaces open/block)

In the first 6 months...

- Greatest impact on streets North of Commonwealth Ave.
- Smaller impact on Boylston, Newbury and Stuart Sts.



Average Occupancy

Less than 60 percent

More than 2 spaces open on average, very easy to find a space

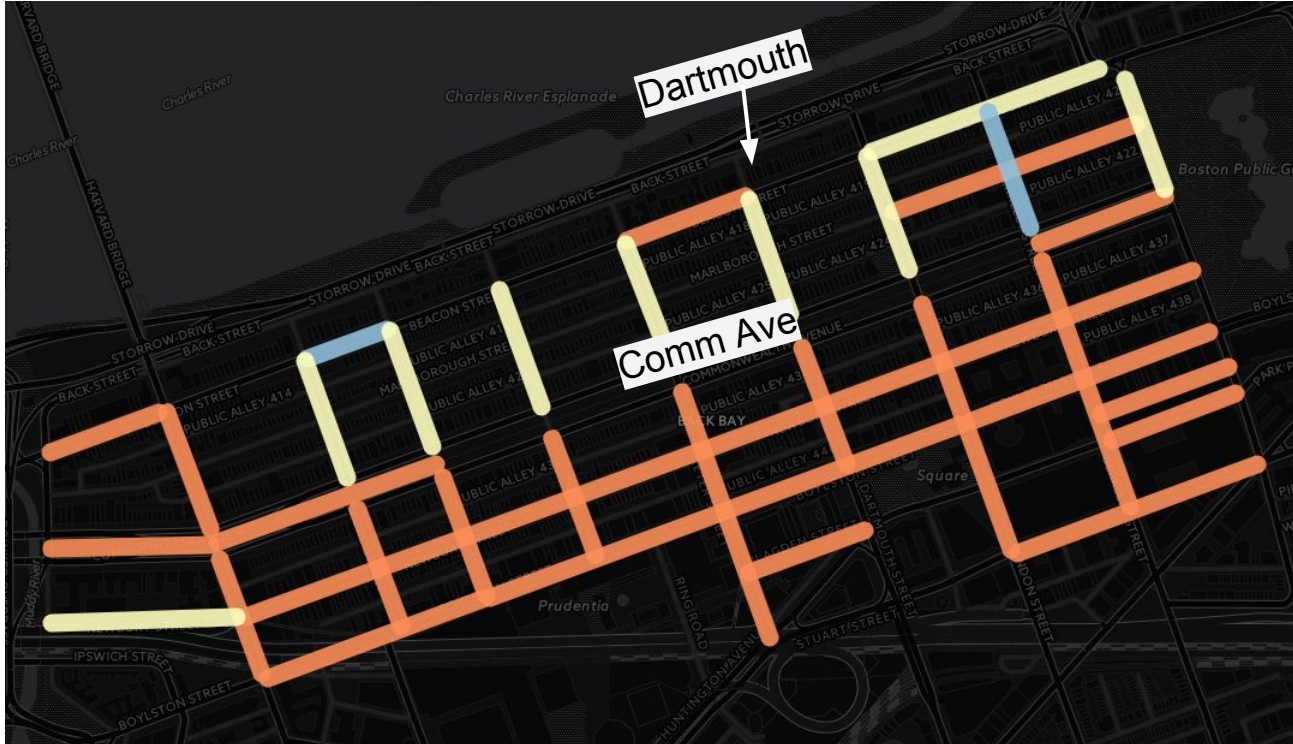
60 - 80 percent

1-2 spaces open on average, goal occupancy band, easy to find space

More than 80 percent

Less than 1 space open on average, hard to find a space

Weekdays 8AM - 12PM

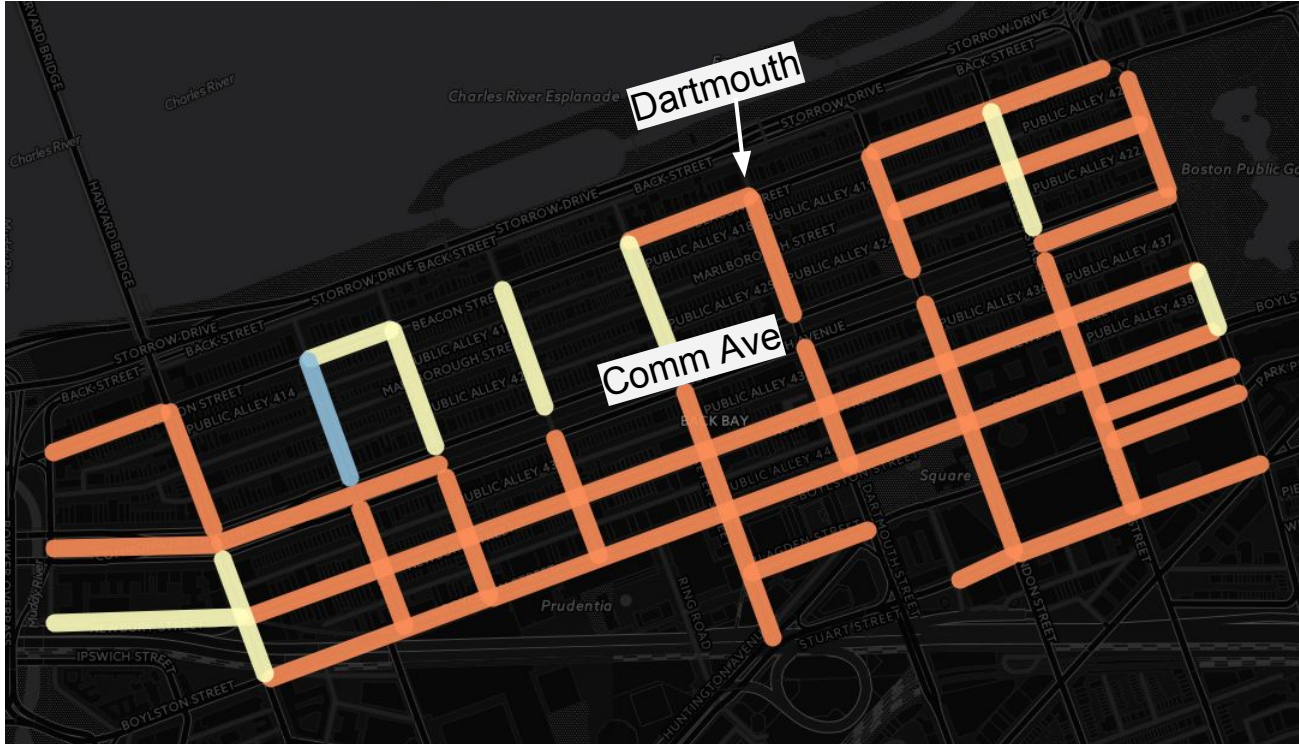


Less than 60 percent

60 - 80 percent

More than 80 percent

Weekdays 12PM - 4PM

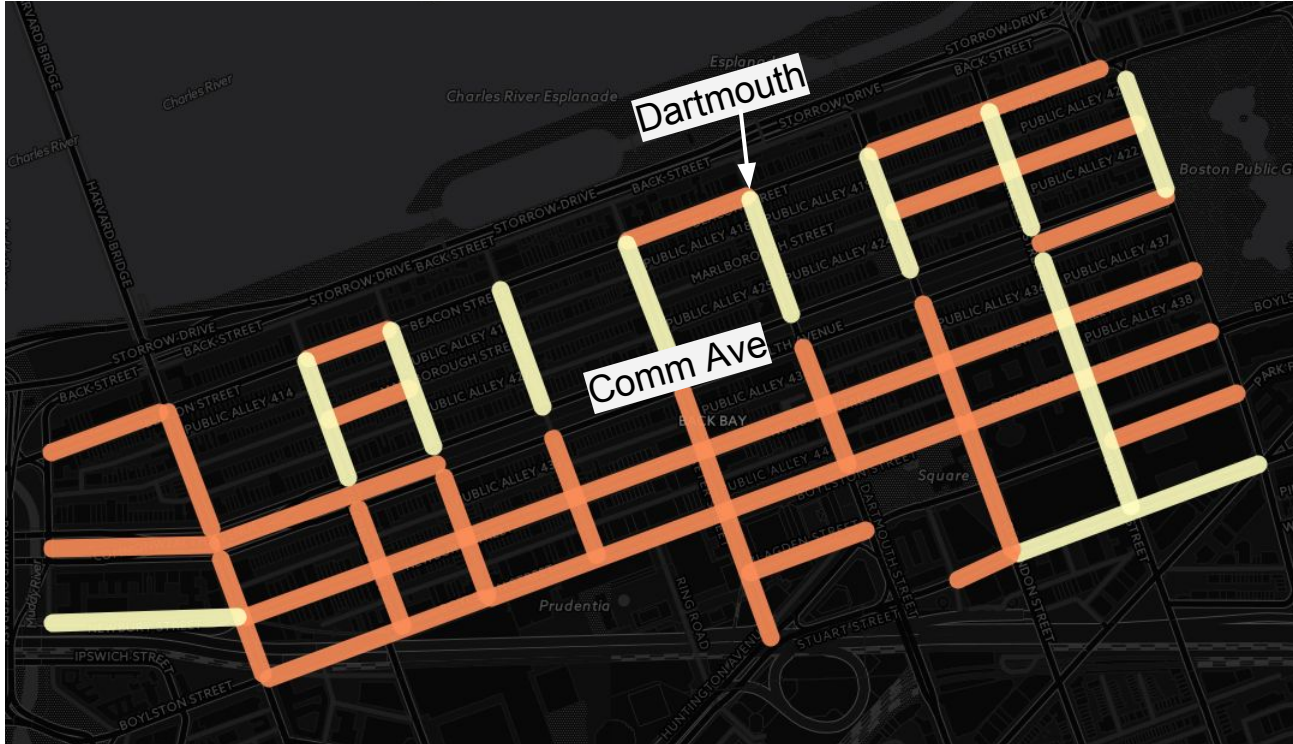


Less than 60 percent

60 - 80 percent

More than 80 percent

Weekdays 4PM - 8PM



Less than 60 percent

60 - 80 percent

More than 80 percent

Saturdays



Less than 60 percent

60 - 80 percent

More than 80 percent

Other data points we are monitoring

- Turnover within 10-minute periods
- Handicap placards in metered spaces
- Residential parking stickers in metered spaces
- Changes in enforcement
- Double parking due to commercial/rideshare/personal vehicles



A scenic view of a pond in a park. In the foreground, a boat filled with people is on the water. The background is filled with lush green trees and a building. White blossoms are visible on the right side of the image.

Discussion

Thank you!

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www.boston.gov/performanceparking

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