

For Immediate Release

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LEXPARK adds state-of-the-art technology & visual appeal to Lexington cityscape.

New technology, e-space trackers and a Main Street façade for the Helix parking structure highlight advances for the Lexington Fayette County Parking Authority (LFCPA).

(LEXINGTON, KY) – Visitors and commuters to downtown Lexington can now see real-time space counts at all four **LEXPARK** public garages. The LED “e-space” trackers and corresponding ParkMe app is the latest in a series of technology and infrastructure additions designed to add accessibility, safety and efficiency to parking in our city center.

A new façade is now under construction at the “Helix on Main” the public garage at the Martin Luther King viaduct and Main Street. Perforated steel elements of varying sizes, arranged in a geometric manner and back-lit with programmable colored lighting will cover the Main Street side of the garage thus completing major renovations that began last year. Installation is expected to be complete by the July 4th holiday. The Helix on Main will remain open for parking 24 – 7 while the installation is underway.

The perforated steel elements have a sculptural quality, putting a dynamic face on the prominent Main Street structure. “Good design can transform a common parking garage into a dynamic presence that adds visual interest and rhythm to the cityscape”, commented Jim Clark, Executive Director of LexArts.

The elements will be backlit with an extension of the lighting system now illuminating the spiral “Helix” visible from Vine Street. This system can be programmed to change colors for community events and holidays. “The façade is a voluntary effort to enhance our Main Street and illustrates the self-funded organization’s commitment to the community and its neighbors” notes Architect, Graham Pohl.

Gary Means, Executive Director of the Lexington Parking Authority (LFCPA) says, “we’ve learned from studying other cities that adding visual appeal to public parking facilities increases use and pays dividends for years. The lighting of the Helix ramps and the Main Street façade is a cost effective form of public art.

The eye-catching installation will serve to increase awareness of public parking, assisting the totally self-funded Lexington Parking Authority to encourage paid parking and monthly rentals of space.” Means continues, “Besides providing convenient and safe parking facilities, we also need to make sure we enhance rather than detract from the visual appeal of our city. We would be shortsighted to present the most utilitarian solution.”

LFCPA’s Board of Commissioners Chairman James Frazier says the Authority has rebuilt, upgraded, and enhanced all its facilities without using any tax dollars and has been entirely self-funded through parking fees. Frazier commented, “The LFCPA is a large part of the public services that must perform very, very well so our citizens and their businesses can continue to grow and evolve in the city we love. Lexington is on the move, and we intend to make sure our parking infrastructure performs in making that growth positive for our community.”

Please visit

(<https://www.dropbox.com/s/nx84ehc33zyvmse/LexPark%20Edit%202%20COMP.mov>) for a short video interview with Gary Means at the Helix Garage.