



## Hub drivers can prepay meters

By Dave Wedge | Tuesday, November 22, 2011 | <http://www.bostonherald.com> | Local Coverage

The city takes another step today toward eliminating the need for motorists to hunt for quarters to pay for parking with a new prepaid meter card that will work similarly to the MBTA's Charlie Card.

Mayor **Thomas M. Menino** today will unveil the "Boston Meter Card," which will allow motorists to prepay for parking online and then use the card to pay at 7,000 single-space meters around the city.

"We want to make it as convenient as possible for Boston residents and visitors to patronize our neighborhood business districts," Menino said. "The Boston Meter Card will be a great tool for consumers, and I'm thrilled to be able to launch it in time for the holiday season."

Users can use a credit card to prepay for parking on the city's website ([www.cityofboston.gov](http://www.cityofboston.gov)). Once the free card is activated, motorists can swipe it at 7,000 meters that until today had accepted only quarters. Starting today, kiosks will also be set up in busy shopping areas where motorists can get cards.

In addition to convenience, the new card allows motorists to pay only for the time they actually park in a space. Users swipe the card upon parking and then re-swipe it when they leave so they're charged for the exact time they spent in the spot.

The Boston Meter Card cannot be used at multi-space meter pay stations or meters that already accept credit cards. But the addition of the new prepaid card means every meter in the city now accepts a payment other than quarters.

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