



PARK(ING) DAY

September 17, 2021

OVERVIEW

People, groups, and municipalities across the globe temporarily repurpose street parking spaces and convert them to tiny parks and places for art, play, and activism. Park(ing) Day is Friday, September 17, 2021.

McHenry County DOT is encouraging local municipalities to take part in Park(ing) Day 2021. We can help brainstorm, design, and promote the temporary installations.







CHOOSING A SPOT

1

Type of metered space: is it a 2-hour spot or a 1/2 hour drop-off spot? We do not suggest “No-Stopping” zones, commercial loading zones, commuter lanes, or any place in front of a fire hydrant.

2

People you are trying to serve: downtown office workers, tourists, the down and out, or the highrollers? When will they be around to see and use the space?

3

Documentation: are there nearby spots for you or your friends to take pictures or video of the installation?

4

Other environmental conditions: sun, shade, wind, weather, traffic, construction will all impact your PARK(ing) Day installation.

DESIGN TIPS

1

Include seating

The more seating you provide, the greater the chance of unplanned interaction among PARK(ing) Day visitors.

2

Incorporate shaded areas

If you want to use living plants to provide shade, some nurseries will lease trees by the day or week. Check with your local nursery to find a sturdy tree with abundant foliage for shade.

3

Ensure the area is safe

Plastic bollards (a.k.a. traffic tubes) linked with rope, potted plants, or any self-supporting boundary is important to provide a sense of enclosure and safety for visitors to your PARK.

4

Post signs ahead of the event and during the event to explain

A sign or signs indicating that this space has been transformed from a parking spot to a PARK(ing) Day installation for free public enjoyment.

5

Engage users and consider permanent changes

During the event, allow users to submit comments or have staff on-site to gauge engagement. If residents/visitors enjoy the design of the parklet, consider implementing it for festival or municipal events. Permanent changes could also be made.





QUESTIONS?



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