



# City Updates to Large Vehicle Restrictions, Curbside Parking Plan, and Veterans' Parking Privileges

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Transportation, Technology  
and Infrastructure Committee  
May 4, 2023



# Agenda

- ⬢ Large Vehicle Restrictions
- ⬢ Curbside Management Plan
- ⬢ Other Updates to Chapter 16 and 26
- ⬢ Veterans' Parking Privileges



# Large Vehicle Enforcement

- Fines
- Outreach to trucking associations
- TXDOT's parking guidance system does not include Houston

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# Large Vehicle Regulations



**Sec. 26-2:** "Commercial Vehicle" definition updated to allow for commercial signage on any side of the vehicle.

**Sec. 26-94:** Time limits applicable to large vehicles and trailers

- Provides exemptions for active loading/unloading, service at a location, areas authorized by the City, or short-term rentals.

**Sec. 26-95:** Large vehicles and commercial vehicles prohibited from parking on-street from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m.

**Sec. 26-96:** Clarifies short-term rentals to reflect large vehicles rented for the purpose of moving.



# Curbside Management

Growing  
Density



Active  
Nighttime  
Economy



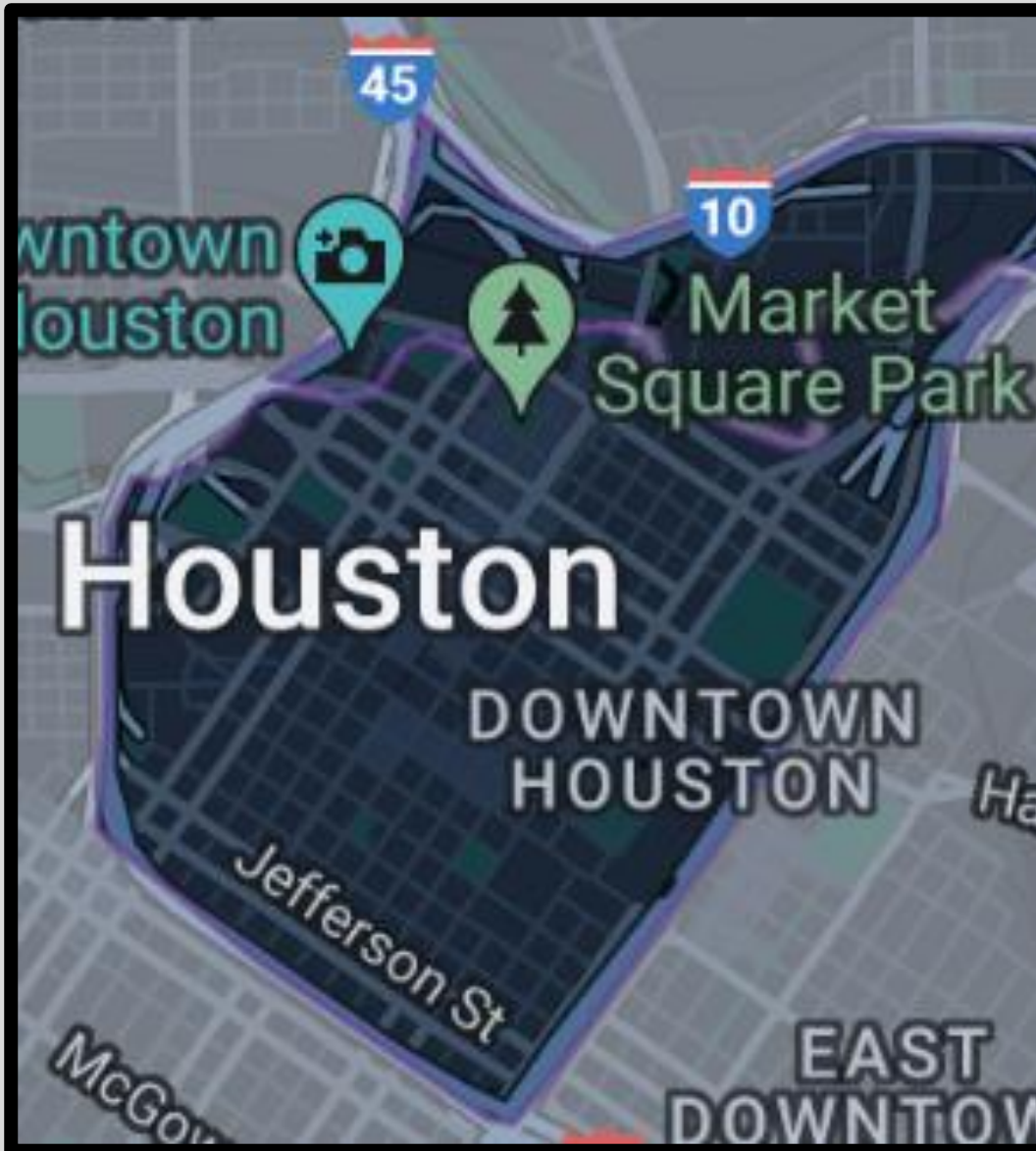
Special  
Event Parking  
Rates



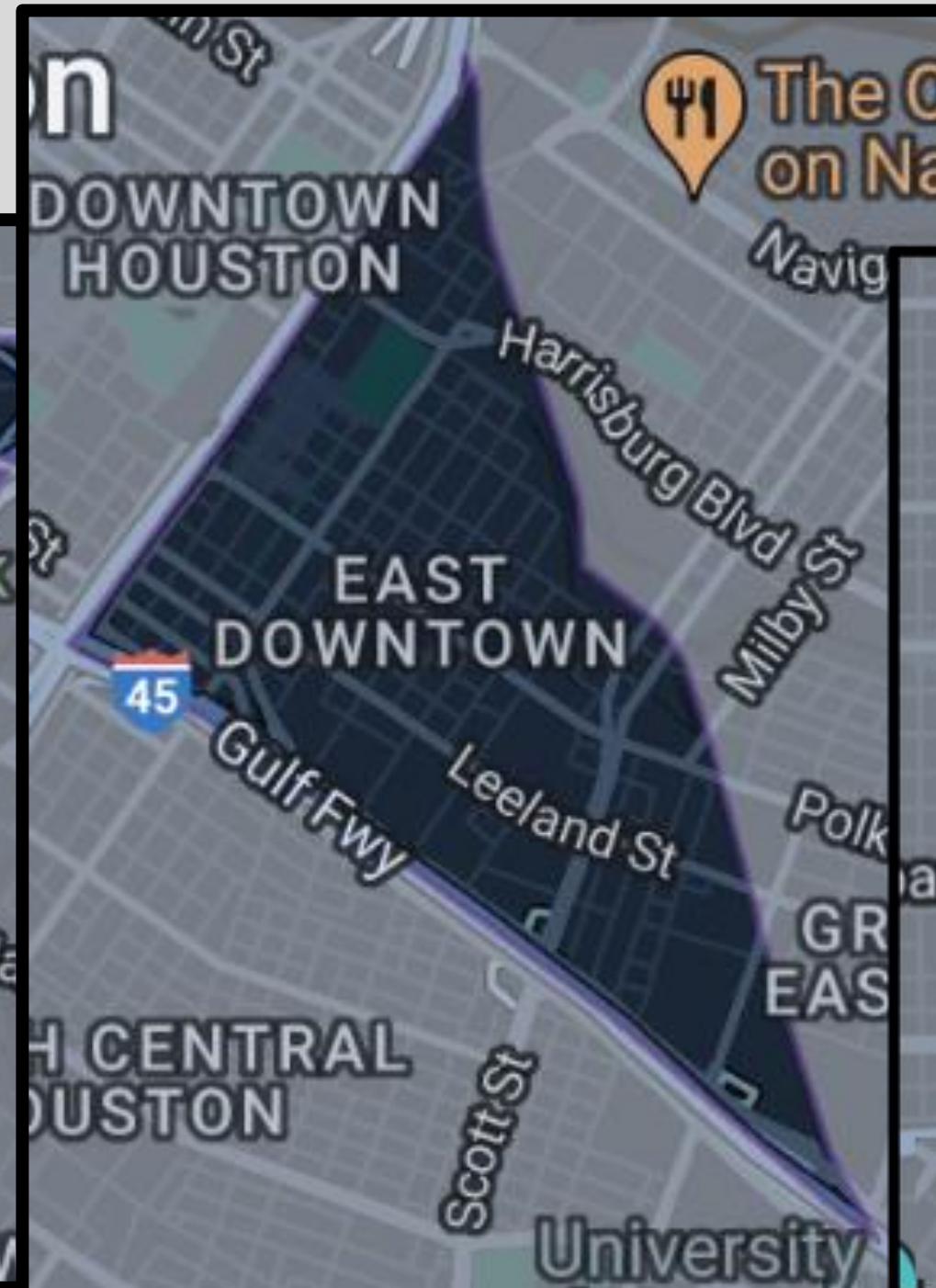
Perceived  
Parking  
Shortage



# Parking Occupancy Surveys



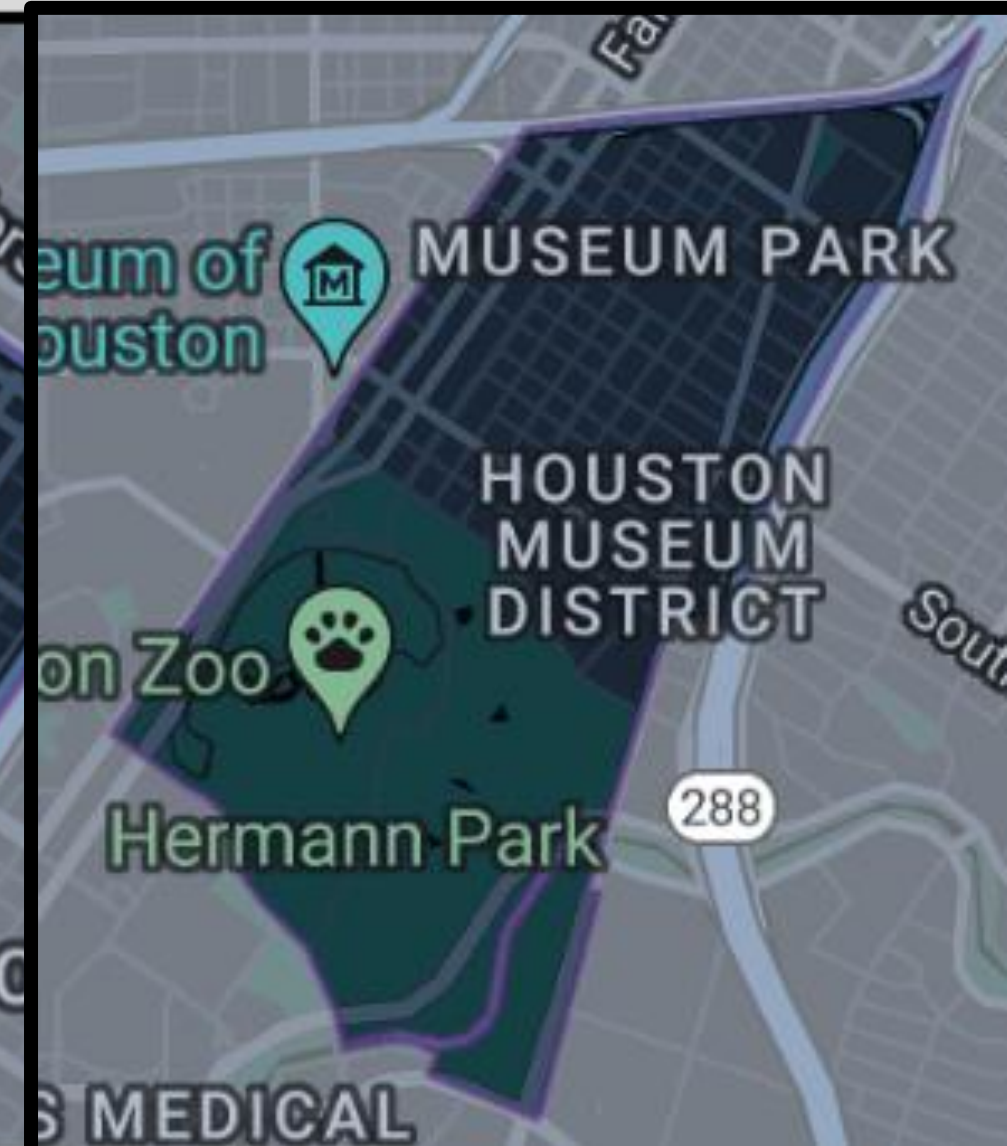
Downtown



East  
Downtown



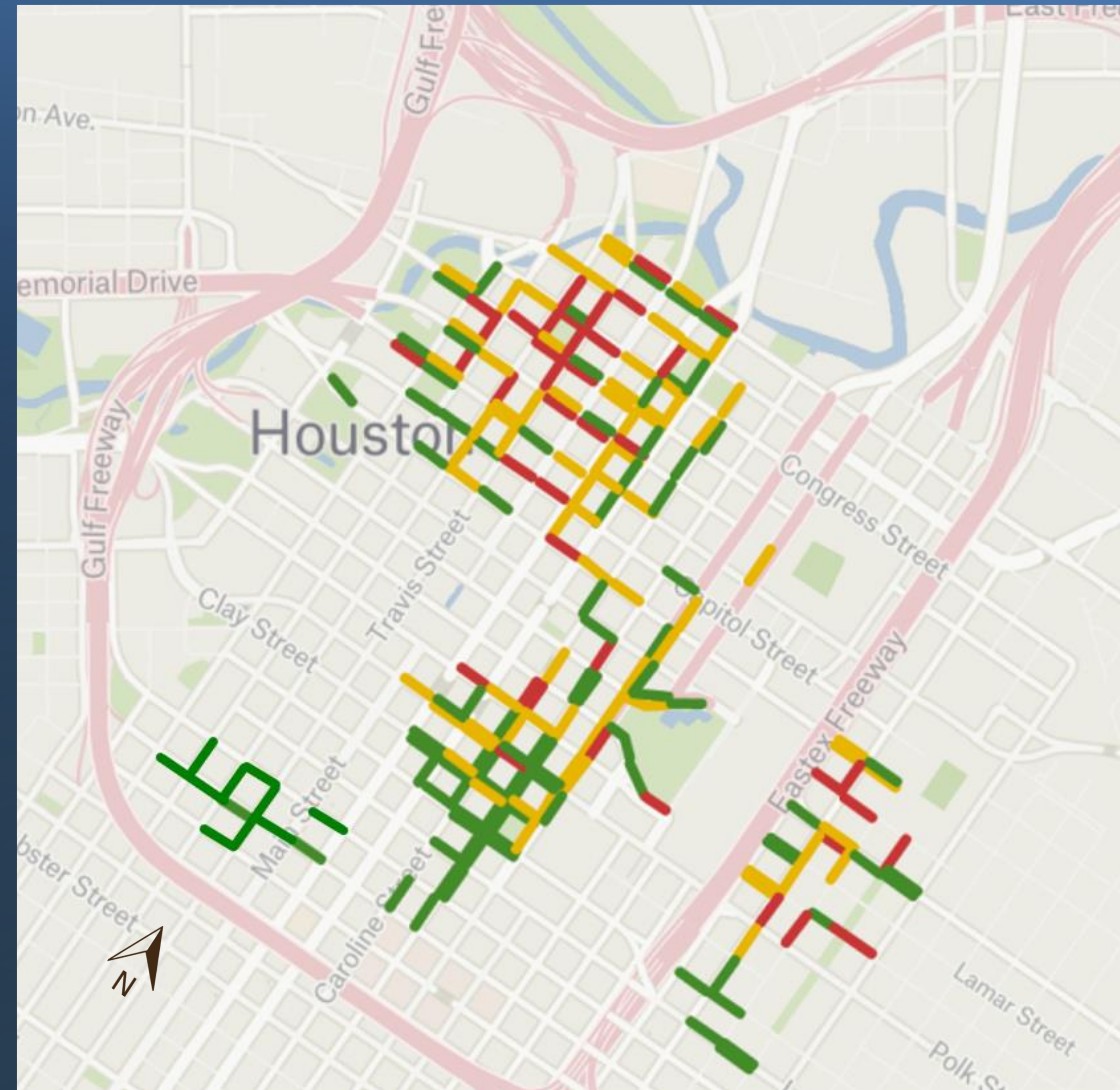
Midtown



Museum District



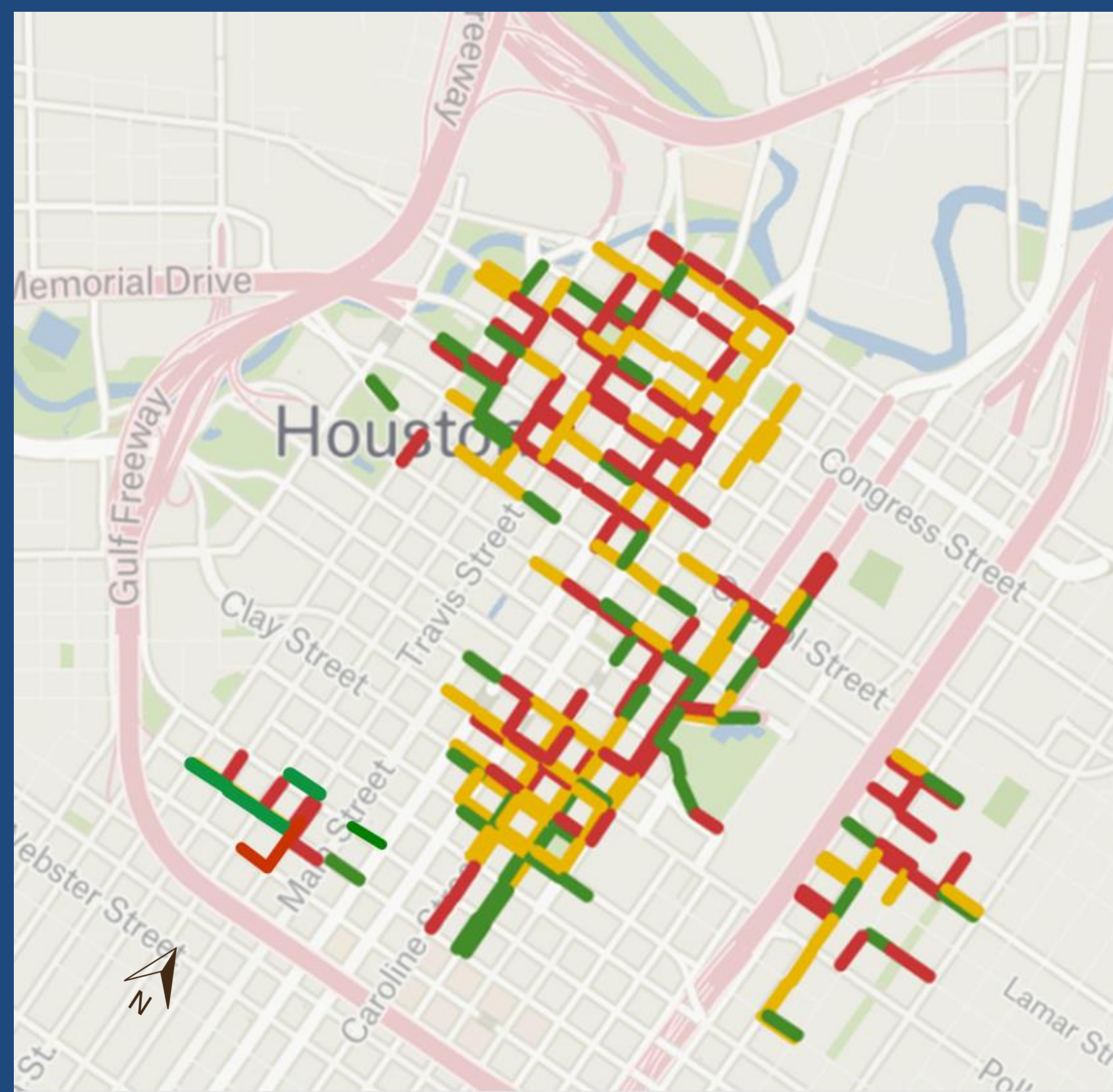
# Weekday Average Occupancy Downtown & East Downtown 6 p.m. to midnight



KEY	
Peak >80%	
Medium 50-79%	
Low <50%	



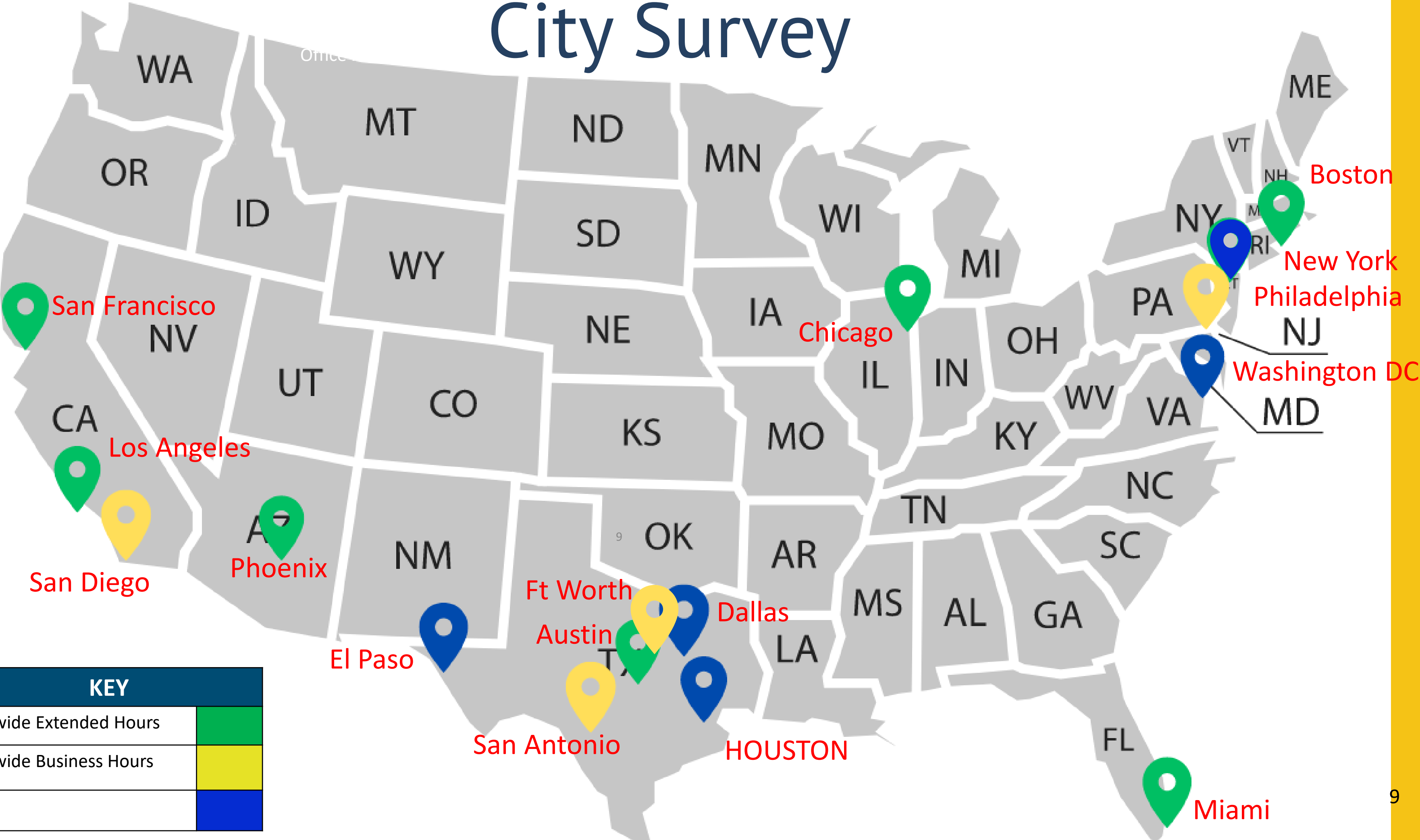
## Weekend Average Occupancy Downtown & East Downtown 6 p.m. to midnight



KEY	
Peak >80%	Red
Medium 50-79%	Yellow
Low <50%	Green



# City Survey



KEY	
Citywide Extended Hours	Green
Citywide Business Hours	Yellow
Mix	Blue



# Recommendations:

- Extend meters to operate until midnight
- No time limits after 6 p.m.
- Demand Zones – same hourly rate as 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Economy Zones – flat rate after 6 p.m.
- Payment must be made in the same zone



# Timeline



**May-June**

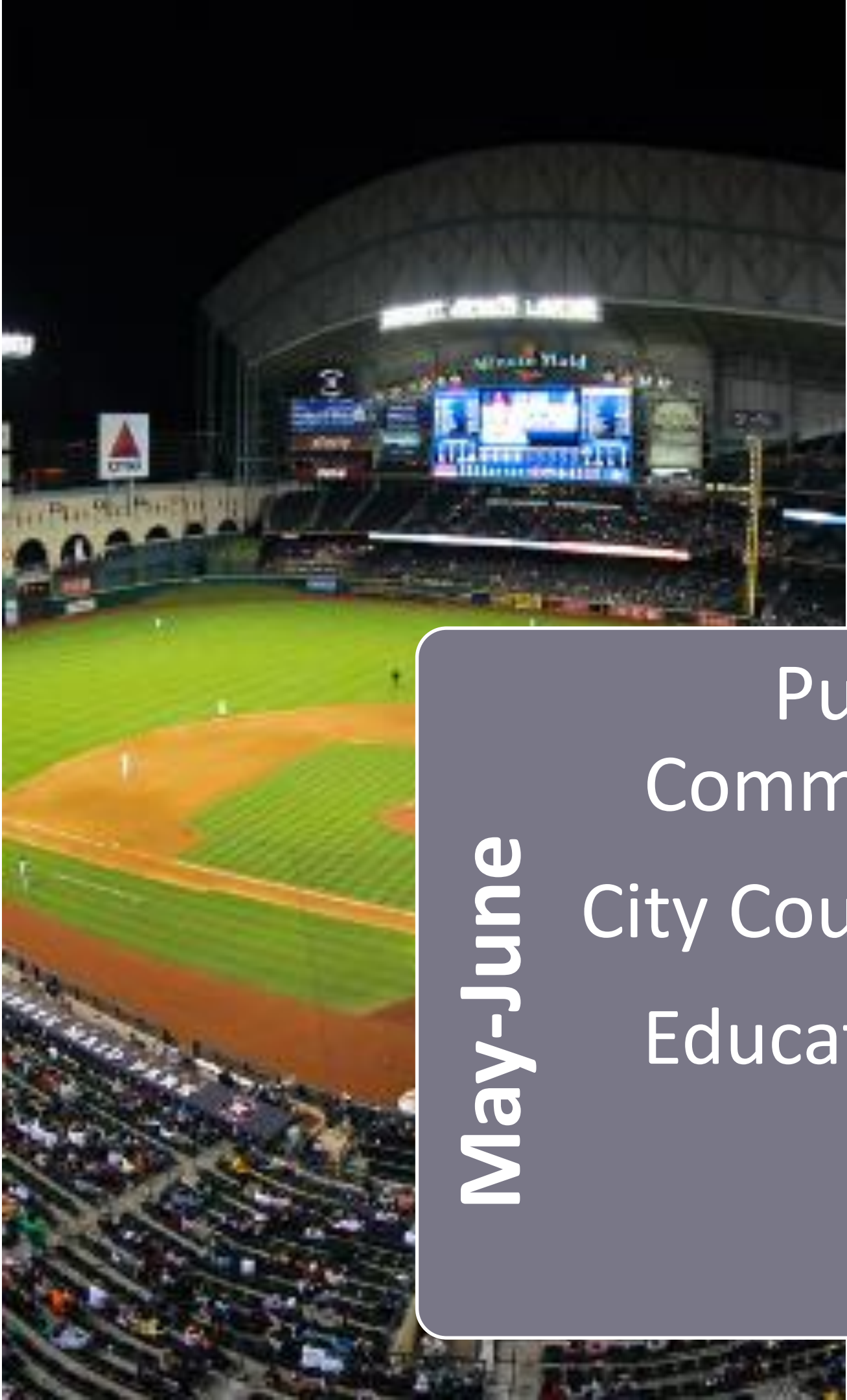
- Public Comment
- City Council
- Education

**June-August**

- Finalize zones/maps
- Update signs
- Education

**September**

- Warning period
- Enforcement





## Updates to Chapter 16 and 26

- Definitions updated
- Delete requirement to display receipt on dashboard for parking
- Allow for license plate in lieu of a hangtag or decal as permit
- Bicycle definition reflects Transportation Code §664.001
- Includes prohibition for displaying vehicles for rent in the right of way
- Authorizes boot payment plans
- Clarification to require meter payment in specific zone



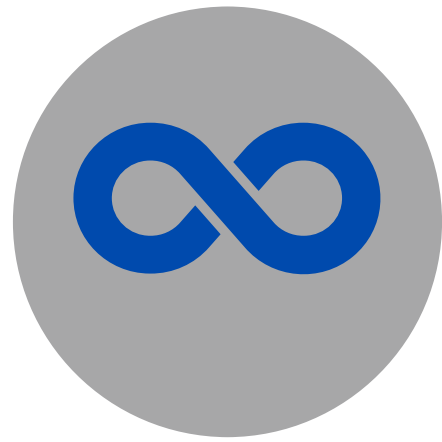


# Veteran and Specialty Plate Parking

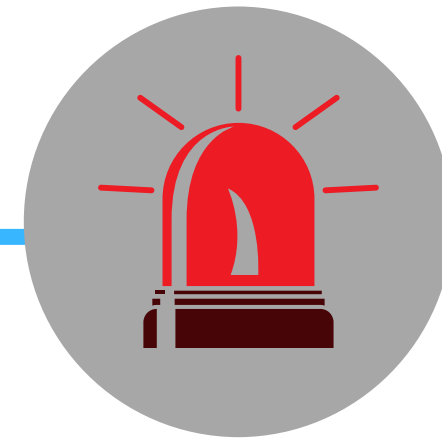
Walt Gray  
Executive Assistant Director



# Disabled Veteran Parking and Specialty Plate Parking



Current Benefit



Challenge



Texas Transportation Code 681.008  
PARKING PRIVILEGES: CERTAIN VETERANS AND  
MILITARY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Sec 681.008, (B), (a-2), (b), 3, (d) A governmental unit may provide by ordinance or order that the exemption provided by Subsection (b) also applies to payment of a fee or penalty imposed by the governmental unit for parking in a parking garage or lot or in a space with a limitation on the length of time for parking.

Veterans Parking  
Code of Ordinances  
Sec. 26-83

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 681.008 of the Texas Transportation Code, as amended, the exemption from the payment of a parking meter fee for certain veterans and military award recipients shall also apply to payment of a parking fee or penalty imposed by the city for parking in a public parking garage or public parking lot. This exemption from paying a parking fee or penalty shall not, however, extend to designated short-term hourly parking in Houston Airport System parking lots and parking garages and shall not extend past the time limit applicable to the parking meter.

# DV and Specialty Plate Parking Benefit Recommendation



**5  
Days**

## Garage Time Limit

- Limit free garage stays to 5 days
- Payment required on the 6th day

**60  
Days**

## Ecopark Time Limit Long-Term Parking

**15%**

## Customer Impact



# Airport Survey



**Austin-  
Bergstrom**

Garages - 5 days  
Economy Lots - 60 days

**DFW**

Garages - 90 days  
Economy Lots - 90 days

**San  
Antonio**

Garages - 30 days  
Economy Lots - 30 days

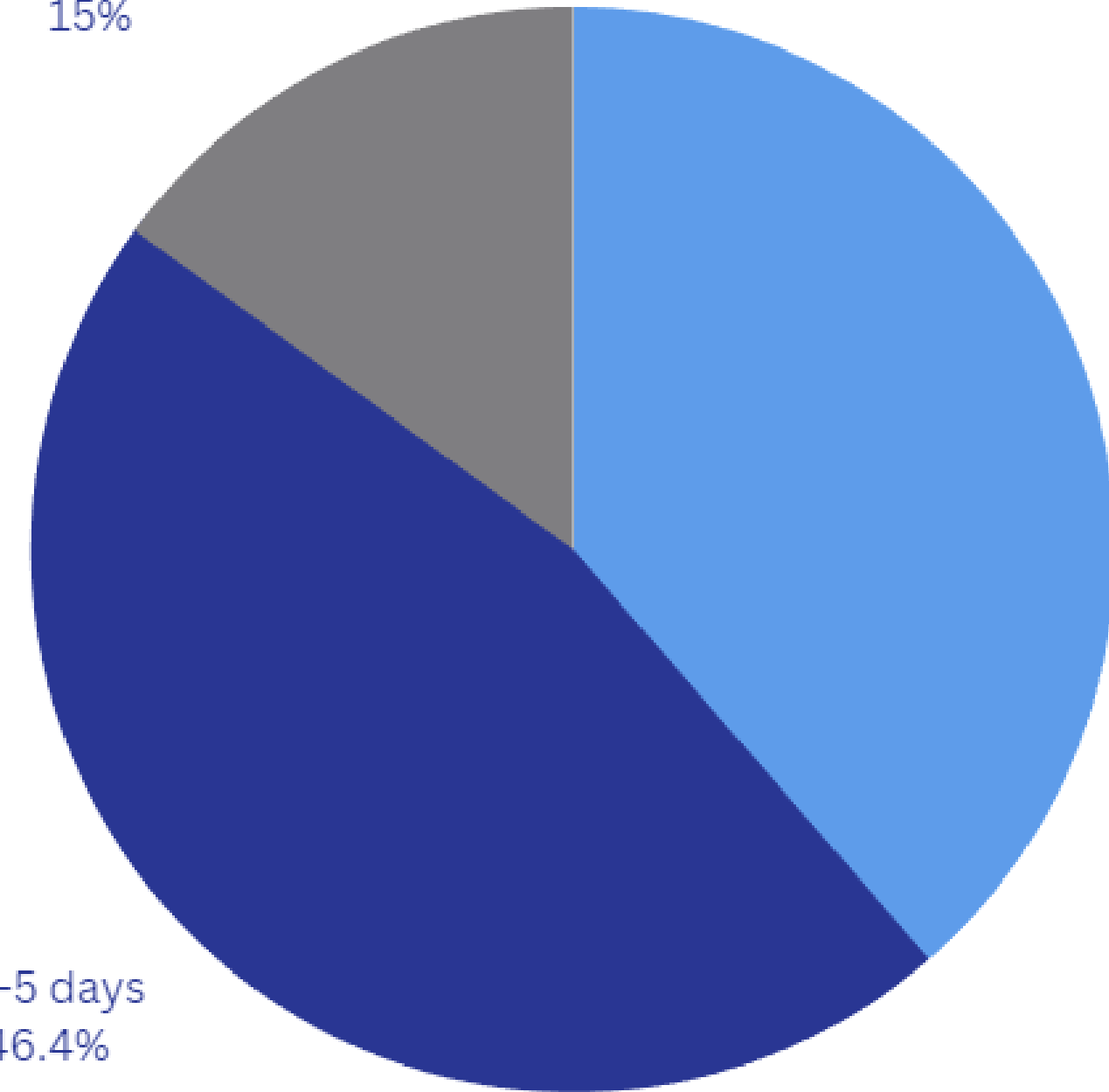
# Validations FY22

Time	Count
0-24 hrs	38,863
24 hrs-5 days	46,706
Longer than 5 days	15,094

Longer than 5 days  
15%

24-5 days  
46.4%

0-24 hrs  
38.6%



# Sec 26-83 Recommended Language



## **Sec. 26-83. Veterans' parking privileges.**

- (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 681.008 of the Texas Transportation Code, as amended, the exemption from the payment of a parking meter fee for certain veterans and military award recipients shall also apply to payment of a parking fee or penalty imposed by the city for parking in a public parking garage or public parking lot. Any exemption shall not extend past the time limit applicable to the parking meter or parking garage or lot. This exemption from paying a parking fee or penalty shall not, however, extend to parking reservations and designated valet and short-term hourly parking in Houston Airport System parking lots and parking garages ~~and shall not extend past the time limit applicable to the parking meter.~~ At Houston Airport System parking lots and parking garages, the time limit is set at five consecutive 24-hour periods (days) in the parking garages, and 60 days in the Ecopark lots. Parking past the time limit requires payment at the posted daily parking rates for each 24-hour period (day). At parking garages managed by the Houston First Corporation, the exemption does not extend to overnight parking, and parking overnight requires payment at the posted daily parking rate.
- (b) The exemption extended herein shall apply when the vehicle is being operated by or for the transportation of the registrant of the vehicle under the applicable provisions of the Texas Transportation Code. The directors who have jurisdiction over the various city-operated parking garages and lots to which this privilege applies may promulgate rules for the operation of this exemption. The rules shall be consistent with applicable state law and may include, but not be limited to, a requirement that persons requesting free parking provide a registration receipt and driver's license or other evidence that the vehicle is in fact being operated by or for the transportation of the vehicle registrant.



# Thank You



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