To: OU Students, Faculty and Staff  
From: Doug Myers, Director, OU Parking and Transportation Services  
Date: April 13, 2015  
Re: Parking Permit Rate Increase

Construction will begin in August on the first of two planned parking structures on the University of Oklahoma campus. The two parking facilities will accommodate a growing OU student, staff and faculty population and satisfy requests for more covered parking.

The Jenkins Avenue Parking Facility, the first of the two new structures, will provide 1,221 parking spaces. The structure will be built on Jenkins Avenue east of the Huston Huffman Fitness Center and across the street from the Headington Hall parking lot. The architect’s rendering reveals a design closely associated with the two new residential colleges being built along Lindsey Street. Construction on the residential colleges is slated to begin in mid-May. At that time, the multipurpose lot of nearly 600 spaces along Lindsey between Asp and Jenkins will close for good.

Parking permit prices have increased to help pay for the parking structures. Permit prices will increase for OU students, faculty and staff as well as visitors, vendors, football fans and others parking on campus. OU Parking and Transportation Services is a self-funded department, receiving no direct state or university funding.

“While raising parking rates is never best-case scenario, the student, faculty and staff leadership are supportive, because they understand it is the only option right now,” said Doug Myers, director of OU Parking and Transportation Services. “We are still servicing debt on the two parking facilities we have on Elm and Asp avenues at $1.4 million annually. Parking is needed on this campus, and many members of the OU community have expressed willingness to pay our fair share.”

The second parking facility also will be located on the main campus, although the exact location has not been determined. Both facilities will serve faculty, staff and students. The Jenkins Avenue Parking Facility also will house the Parking Services office. Construction of the Jenkins facility is projected to take 18 months, opening in January 2017.

Construction costs for the first garage is estimated to total $28 million. To raise the funding for these projects, parking permit rates will increase each fall for at least another four years.

Students, both those living on campus and commuters, now pay $215 for permits, considerably less than the average $248.80 paid by their Big 12 peers. Student rate increases will average $18 per year over the four-year period. Faculty and staff rates are $244 this year, and most are paid through payroll deduction.
Permit-free parking also will remain an option over the next few years. Students, faculty and staff parking on the north side of the Lloyd Noble Center may ride Cleveland Area Rapid Transit (CART) shuttles to campus for free. These shuttles run every 10 to 15 minutes during peak class times.

The OU Parking Services staff tweets available parking spaces each morning at @OUParking to help students find a place to park. Employees also are available to help provide other motorist services such as jumping stalled cars and providing aerosol flat fixatives. The office is located at 1107 Elm Ave. in Stubbeman Place.

For more information, visit parking.OU.edu on the web, email parking@ou.edu, send a direct message to @OUParking on Twitter or phone (405) 325-3311.