

**For Immediate Release
April 3, 2012**

**Contact: Public Works Department
573-874-7250**

Multi-space parking meters on Ninth Street removed

(COLUMBIA, MO) – The City of Columbia Public Works Department announced today that it has removed the two multi-space parking meters on Ninth Street. The two systems served parking spaces on Ninth Street, between Broadway and Locust Streets during a pilot project to test different types of machines. Numerous problems with the two machines forced the Parking Utility staff to shut down the machines and put the old meters back into operation.

Single-space meters from IPS Group, Inc. are still being tested on Ninth Street from Locust Street to University Avenue. This test will remain active for a 90 day period.

Testing different types of meters allowed city staff the opportunity to measure the benefits of paying by credit card and cell phone, as well as the willingness of patrons to go to a multi-space system verses single-space meters. Data from the two types of machines will be part of a report that goes to the Parking Task Force in the near future. The Task Force will determine if changes need to be made to the on-street meters, as well as budgeting for new meters.

For more information downtown parking, go online to www.GoColumbiaMo.com (search: GoParking), or call the Public Works Department at (573) 874-7250.

#####