# Gulf News

# Abu Dhabi extends paid parking to more areas

Move to have more paid parking spaces aimed at encouraging practice of car pooling, official says

* By Samir Salama, Associate Editor
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Image Credit: Abdul Rahman/Gulf News

* Motorists collect parking tickets from a new payment machine installed between Shaikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum Street and 26th Street in Abu Dhabi.

Abu Dhabi: Starting April 24, Abu Dhabi residents will have to pay to park their cars in more than 1,650 parking spaces in Al Khalidiya area, where parking is currently free of charge, a senior official said on Monday.

Najeeb Al Zarouni, general manager of parking at the Department of Transport, said the move aimed to encourage car pooling. He said a parking area complete with payment machines has been created between Zayed the First Street to the north and Al Falah Street to the south, and between Shaikh Rashid Bin Saeed Al Maktoum Street (Airport Road) to the east and King Khalid Bin Abdul Aziz Street (26th Street) to the west.

**New timings**

Paid parking has already been implemented in other areas of Al Khalidiya. Paid parking hours in these areas are also to be extended until 10pm, from 9pm at present. The new timings — from 8am to 10pm — will also gradually take effect in other areas.

The additional spaces are part of a long-term parking strategy to better serve the residents of Abu Dhabi. Increasing the number of parking bays from 3,475 to 5,125 will help reduce illegal parking, facilitating smoother flow of traffic and ensuring the safety of residents and visitors.

There are plans to introduce a pay-to-park system in 71,000 spaces across Abu Dhabi by the end of this year.

Mawaqif, described as an innovative and integrated parking solution for the city, was able to provide these additional 1,650 parking slots after reaching an agreement with Sorouh Properties to use a piece of land in Al Khalidiya area that allowed it to provide 1,200 parking bays.

The additional 450 parking spaces have been made available as a result of changes made by Mawaqif to reroute traffic in some inner streets of Al Khalidiya.

In line with other paid parking services, spaces will be free of charge during official holidays. Fines, however, will be applied to cars that are parked illegally at any time.

**Long-term strategy**

Mawaqif was launched by the Department of Transport in 2009 to ease the chronic shortage of parking spaces in some of Abu Dhabi's most congested areas by offering parking spots to residents and commuters with the aim of ensuring a greener, more accessible and less congested city while supporting the Abu Dhabi 2030 vision of making the city one of the leading capitals in the world.

**Boost for transport**

The Department of Transport (DoT) in Abu Dhabi has launched its master plan to develop the transportation and roads sectors in the emirate.

It has also finalised agreements for projects with some major international construction companies specialised in developing multi-modal cargo transportation facilities.

It will adopt a set of policies and master plans to develop transport and roads infrastructure in the emirate, keeping pace with the current economic development and the ambitious Abu Dhabi Vision 2030.

Article Report 002

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**Pre-reading questions:**

1. When Abu Dhabi will complete extend the whole areas?
2. What is the important to do these parking paid?
3. Why they did extends paid parking in more areas?
4. Will they do it free in future? If it’s yes why?

**I think that this article will be about:**

I think it talks about the parking in Abu Dhabi which extends paid in the whole areas. In that point, they have finished almost the Abu Dhabi, and they have now to finish the outside Abu Dhabi. As a result the areas outside the Abu Dhabi town are needed the paid parking.

**Why did I choose that article?**

I want to know why Abu Dhabi government did extend parking paid. However, what is the reason for doing this parking. What is the important to extend parking paid in Abu Dhabi? Why and Why of that?

**Summary/opinion:**

It’s almost done extends parking paid in Khaldiya and it’s about 4550 parking in whole areas round Abu Dhabi. Furthermore, the parking is free charge between 11:00 pm and 6:00 am. However, in afternoon will be charge about 1.79 DHS until 10:00 pm. In addition, 450 parking spaces have been made available as a result of changes made by Mawaqif. About doing these paid parking will reduce the traffic jam and adapt the road in Abu Dhabi in the morning.

**New Vocabulary:**

1. pooling:
2. implemented:
3. extended:
4. strategy:
5. flow:
6. integrated:
7. reroute:
8. inner:
9. congested:
10. leading:
11. adopt:
12. ambitious:

**Additional work:**

**Outline**

**Intro:** The parking in Khaldiya is free charge and its round 1400 parks extend with paid parking.

 **Body 1:** Parking is completed to pay in deferent areas now between Zayed the First Street to the north and Al Falah.

 **Key point:** Payment Machine.

**Key point:** to be extended until 10pm, from 9pm at present.

**Body 2:**  Nowadays, more paid parking is created by the manager between 450 parks to 500 parks and it’s almost done, but for free charge.

**Conclusion:** It’s protecting the traffic jam and the road in Abu Dhabi which this is the reason why we did the paid parking.