

## How Will You Pay For Parking Downtown?

Tuesday, 03 July 2012 20:54

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The debate over charging drivers to park in downtown La Crosse ramps has reached the sub-committee stage...

A smaller 'rate control' subcommittee of the city Parking Utility Board is looking into automated gate systems, blocking off the upper floors of each ramp unless a driver pays for a space. Bob Haines from the city public works office says the paid spaces will be either leased long-term, or temporary at 50 cents an hour.

Haines says ramp users could pay with coins, tokens, or special cards. He says gate manufacturers frown on paying with dollar bills, because the cash box would become a target for thieves.