

Parking at the Milpitas & Berryessa Transit Centers

Frequently Asked Questions

When VTA opens the Berryessa and Milpitas Transit Centers with VTA and BART services, both Transit Centers will offer multi-level parking garages and surface lots for cars.

Q. *When will the parking at the Transit Centers open to the public?*

Parking at the Milpitas and Berryessa Transit Centers will open when VTA and BART begin operating at the Transit Centers, which is still several months away.

Finding and Paying for Parking

Q. *What is the cost of parking?*

The daily fee for parking will be \$3 per 24 hour period, starting from when you pay for parking in the garage before you enter the BART station. The monthly fee for parking will be \$50 per month. The monthly fee represents an approximate 20% discount from the regular daily fee.

Q. *How can I pay for daily parking?*

There will be three ways you'll be able to buy a daily parking permit.

1. **Online Account:** You will be able to create a parking account on a dedicated website (it will be set up and shared once VTA is closer to opening the Transit Centers for service). On the website, you will be able to set up online payments for an entire month at the discounted rate so that no further payment will be required when you park. You will also have the option of creating a debit account to pay for parking one day at a time online.
2. **Smartphone App:** You will be able to download a smartphone app for paying parking fees that will be set up and shared once VTA is closer to opening the Transit Centers for service. You will enter your license plate information and use a credit or debit card to pay for daily parking.
3. **On-Site Payment:** You can pay in-person using cash, credit card, or debit card at the pay kiosks located on the ground floor of the garages and near lot entrances.

Whichever method you use to pay for parking, you will be required to enter your license plate number.

Q. *How do I buy a monthly parking permit?*

Monthly permits will be available on the parking website by creating an online parking account. By purchasing a monthly permit, you will receive an approximate 20% discount on the cost of daily parking (\$50/month). You will be able to park in the garage or the lot with a monthly permit.

Q. *Will I be able to reserve a specific daily or a monthly parking space?*

No, there will be no reserved parking spaces in a specific area of the garages or lots at either of the Transit Centers.

Q. *How many vehicles will I be able to have registered to my monthly permit?*

You will be able to have two vehicles registered to your monthly permit. If you have more than one vehicle registered to your monthly permit, you will only be able to park one registered car at a time. If more than one vehicle is parked in a garage or lot, each additional vehicle will receive a ticket.

Q. *Do you expect all the parking spots to be full?*

The garages/lots were built based on the estimated parking demand 5-10 years from opening day. VTA does not expect them to be full initially.

Q. *Will you offer long-term parking, say if I leave my car here on my way to the airport for a trip?*

Yes, advanced reservations for long-term parking will be \$7 per 24 hour period. Advanced sign up on the parking website will be required. There isn't a limit on the number of days you can park long-term.

Q. *Could the cost of parking change over time?*

Yes. To ensure there is enough parking to meet demand for it, VTA will decide on changing the cost of parking if and when the number of spots in use are regularly greater than an average of 85% of the total number of spots.

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Q. *What hours/days will the fee be enforced? How about holidays?*

Parking will be enforced 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, including holidays.

Q. *Once I pay, do I have to display a tag or receipt on the inside of my car?*

No. Payment is tied to the license plate or VIN number of your vehicle.

Q. *How will parking be enforced?*

A license plate reader (LPR) system will be moving through all parking lots and garages to ensure every car parked has indeed paid.

Q. *How will I get a permit if I don't have a license plate number?*

If you have a personalized license plate, simply enter the characters (ignoring the symbols) into the system without spaces. If you have a new car with a paper plate, please enter your VIN number.

Q. *Will you offer motorcycle parking?*

Yes, there is designated motorcycle parking. Motorcycles parked in the designated "Motorcycle Parking" area will be able to park for free. If you park your motorcycle in a larger parking space intended for a car, you will be charged the normal \$3 per day rate.

Q. *Will you offer electric vehicle charging stations?*

Yes, there are 24 electric vehicle charging stations in each of the garages with potential for expansion in the future. The electric vehicle charging stations will be administered by the company ChargePoint.

Q. *How much will it cost to charge my electric vehicle?*

The EV fee to charge your vehicle is \$1.25 per hour when your vehicle is actively charging. That fee is on top of the typical \$3 regular daily fee, \$7 long-term daily fee, or \$50 monthly fee to park. Once charged, your vehicle can remain in the electric vehicle parking spot for the remainder of your time parked there (though as a courtesy, you may wish to move it to another spot to allow others to charge).

Q. *Will there be reservations for electric vehicle parking spots?*

No.

Q. *Will I be able to charge my electric vehicle any time of the day?*

As long as there are open electric vehicle charging stations and spots in front of them, you may charge your car; so that could be anytime, 24 hours per day.

Q. *Will there be a charge for disabled parking spaces?*

Yes, those utilizing parking spaces reserved for the disabled will pay the same rates listed above: \$3 regular daily fee, \$7 long-term daily fee, or \$50 monthly fee to park.

Additional Details on Parking

Q. *What is the maximum height of vehicles that can enter the garages?*

No vehicle over 8 feet, 2 inches will be able to enter the garage because it won't be able to clear it.

Q. *Who owns the parking garages?*

They are owned by VTA and will be operated by VTA's contractor, SP+.

Q. *Which law enforcement agency is responsible for maintaining public safety in the parking garages and lots?*

VTA has a contract with the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office to ensure public safety in the parking garages and lots. If you are ever worried about your safety or others, as always, call 9-1-1. Law enforcement personnel will respond.

Q. *The Berryessa Transit Center has solar panels installed on the roof on the parking garage. Will Milpitas get them too?*

Yes, VTA will be installing solar panels on the roof of the Milpitas parking garage in Summer 2018.

Q. *What happens to the solar energy stored from the solar panels on the roof of the garages?*

The solar panels generate power for the garage to operate.



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If you still have a question that we didn't address above, please email us at vtabart@vta.org.