



Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber | 950 Pacific Ave, Suite 300 | Tacoma, WA 98402
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FOR INFORMATION:

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PARK(ing) Day 2011:

Parking spaces around the globe to be temporarily reclaimed for people

Tacoma, Wash. — On Friday, Sept. 16, 2011, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., artists, activists and citizens around the globe will temporarily transform metered parking spaces into public parks and other social spaces, as part of an annual event called "PARK(ing) Day."

Originally invented in 2005 by Rebar, a San Francisco-based art and design studio, *PARK(ing) Day* challenges people to rethink the way streets are used and reinforces the need for broad-based changes to urban infrastructure. *PARK(ing) Day 2010* included more than 800 "PARK" installations in more than 180 cities in 30 countries on six continents.

"In urban centers around the world, inexpensive curbside parking results in increased traffic, wasted fuel and more pollution," says Rebar's Matthew Passmore. "The planning strategies that generated these conditions are not sustainable, nor do they promote a healthy, vibrant human habitat. *PARK(ing) Day* is about re-imagining the possibilities of the urban landscape."

PARK(ing) Day is an "open-source" user-generated invention created by independent groups around the globe who adapt the project to champion creative, social or political causes that are relevant to their local urban conditions.

Locally, Downtown On the Go and Transportation Choices Coalition are coordinating the event throughout downtown Tacoma. Local businesses and organizations have come out in full force to showcase their creativity and recreate their urban environment.

Downtown On the Go will lead a walking tour of these spaces between noon and 1



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p.m. on Sept. 16, 2011. The walking tour will start in front of the UWT Bookstore at noon. You can vote for your favorite park(ing) stall on the Downtown On the Go [Facebook Page](#).

More information regarding local *PARK(ing) Day* activities and the locations of the park(ing) spots can be found at www.downtownonthego.org and a global map of all participating cities is available on the *PARK(ing) Day* website, at parkingday.org.

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Downtown On the Go (www.downtownonthego.org) is the transportation advocate for anyone whose daily life is downtown Tacoma. We fulfill this role by educating about, encouraging, and advocating for transportation choices and land use policies that promote a vibrant and integrated downtown. DOTG is a collaborative effort of the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber, City of Tacoma, Pierce Transit, and downtown businesses, organizations, and agencies committed to leveraging their resources and relationships to reduce the downtown drive alone rate. DOTG helps businesses save money, position their business as an active downtown community member, improve their employees' health and well being, and protect their local and global environment through transportation management.

Transportation Choices Coalition (www.transportationchoices.org) seeks to bring Washingtonians more and better transportation choices -- real opportunities to take a bus, take a train, ride a bike, or walk -- as well as drive alone. The decisions we make about how to expand our transportation system to meet Washington's growing needs in the next one, five, ten years will have enormous impacts. They will impact our health, environment, economy and quality of life in Washington. As a coalition of citizen groups, businesses, public agencies and concerned individuals, we're playing a role in these important decisions.

About Rebar (www.rebargroup.org). Founded in 2004 in San Francisco, Rebar is an internationally recognized art and design studio operating at the intersection of art, design and ecology.