



# MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

# News Release

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**For Immediate Release: November 14, 2011**

## **Two Parking Lots in Bethesda to Close Mid-January For Construction of New Parking Garage that will Triple Number of Parking Spaces; *Nearby Parking Alternatives Available***

Beginning in mid-January, two surface parking lots in Bethesda (known as Lots 31 and 31A), located at the intersection of Woodmont and Bethesda avenues, will close for about 30 months for the construction of a public-private partnership project that will more than triple the number of public parking spaces available on the site. One to two months after the project begins, Woodmont Avenue between Bethesda Avenue and Leland Street will also close for about 20 months. The adjacent Capital Crescent Trail will remain open during the entire construction project.

Lots 31 and 31A have 279 spaces and are popular with short- and long-term parkers who frequent nearby shops, restaurants and movies, or use the Capital Crescent Trail. To assist parkers, the County is enhancing other parking options in the area during construction.

At the Bethesda-Elm Parking Garage (Garage 57), which has more than 900 parking spaces and is located between Bethesda Avenue and Elm Street, staff will convert 103 long-term spaces to four-hour spaces. In addition, a new messaging system at the garage's entrance will show drivers how many parking spaces are available.

Drivers who need to park for longer periods of time will be encouraged to use other garages in Bethesda. Long-term parking spaces are available at the Woodmont Corner Garage (Garage 11), at Woodmont and Old Georgetown Road, and the Auburn-Del Ray Garage (Garage 36), as well as at privately operated parking facilities surrounding Lot 31. Long-term parkers can also use the free Bethesda Circulator shuttle bus. Starting in December, and throughout the construction period, the Circulator schedule will expand, and the frequency of service will increase. Additional information on Circulator service is available at [www.bethesda.org/lot31](http://www.bethesda.org/lot31).

On Lots 31 and 31A, developers StonebrideCarras of Bethesda and PN Hoffman from Washington, D.C. will construct two residential buildings with 250 units and retail space at ground level. The buildings will include an underground parking garage with 290 private parking spaces for tenants and 940 public spaces.

The project should be completed in Summer 2013.

For more information on parking in Montgomery County's public lots and garages, go to [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/parking](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/parking).

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