



Economic Development

10455 Armstrong Street, Fairfax, VA 22030

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

**Danette Nguyen**

**703.268.1413**

[Danette.Nguyen@fairfaxva.gov](mailto:Danette.Nguyen@fairfaxva.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FAIRFAX CITY'S 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL PARK(ING) DAY BRINGS A PARKLET TO FAIR CITY MALL**

Fairfax, VA – On **Friday, September 18, 2020** the annual global event known as Park(ing) Day will be celebrated in Fairfax City for the second consecutive year. The parking lot of **Fair City Mall at 9650 Main Street** will be transformed into an interactive parklet from **11:00 am to 2:00 pm** as businesses, GMU students, and Fairfax City departments collaborate to celebrate people and open space. The event will feature a balloon garden and encourage the community to share their thoughts on their favorite things about Fairfax City. Each idea will be attached to a balloon in the balloon garden so that visitors can read thoughtful messages as they walk through it. In addition to the balloon garden, there will be a performance by the Dewberry School of Music Flute Ensemble of George Mason University's (GMU) College of Visual and Performing Arts, giveaways, and raffle drawings from businesses located at Fair City Mall.

Patrons are asked to stay home if they have been diagnosed with COVID-19, awaiting test results for COVID-19, or show any symptoms of the virus. To ensure the health and safety of the public, the Economic Development Office will be implementing comprehensive COVID-19 protocols to ensure every precaution is taken to keep attendees safe. The protocols to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 include:

- Temporal temperature checks upon entering;
- Limited occupancy;
- Attendees are asked to wear face coverings;
- Use of hand sanitizer for all attendees and avoidance of casual touching;
- Entrances and exits will be monitored for one-way traffic;
- Social distancing required between artists and patrons.

"The Commonwealth's public safety guidelines were at the forefront when planning Park(ing) Day," said **Danette Nguyen, Assistant Director of Economic Development**. "Our office is excited celebrate Park(ing) Day in a safe manner while showing creative ways parking spaces can be used."

**Linda Monson, Director of GMU's Dewberry School of Music** said, "We are thrilled the Dewberry School of Music Flute Ensemble, led by Julianna Nickel, will be participating in this creative and interactive opportunity organized by the City of Fairfax. Enjoy fantastic music performed by Mason's fabulous flutists!"

"Park(ing) Day is a fun day to turn a parking spot into a mini-park for a day," said **Amy Stephenson, Office Manager at HHH Properties Corp.** "Fair City Mall, partnered with the Economic Development Office of the City of Fairfax last year and is pleased to participate again in this community friendly event and we hope that lots of our neighbors and

customers stop by to visit our Park(ing) Day installation (social distancing & masks required).”

Park(ing) Day began in 2005 when ReBar, a San Francisco art and design studio converted a single metered parking space into a temporary public park in downtown San Francisco. Since then, the event has become an international movement with pop-up parks reactivating public spaces.

To learn more about Fairfax City’s Park(ing) Day event visit [fairfaxcityconnected.com/parkingday2020](https://fairfaxcityconnected.com/parkingday2020).