

City of New Bedford Jonathan F. Mitchell, Mayor City of New Bedford Office of the Mayor Contact: Jonathan Carvalho (508) 979-1410 jcarvalho@newbedford-ma.gov

> Date: November 22, 2017 For Immediate Release

PRESS RELEASE

Mayor Mitchell announces 2 hours of free parking in New Bedford Business Districts during holiday season

Mayor Encourages Gift Shopping in Downtown, North End Business Districts Effective Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 2017 – Monday, January 1, 2018

New Bedford, Massachusetts- In an effort to encourage everyone to do their holiday shopping in New Bedford, Mayor Jon Mitchell has announced that New Bedford will again offer a special Holiday Parking Program. From Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23, 2017 through Monday, January 1, 2018, the City of New Bedford will offer FREE parking at your first metered space for up to two hours in both the Downtown and on Acushnet Avenue, or up to two hours FREE parking at the Elm Street Garage, and the Zeiterion Garage!

"New Bedford is home to many fine galleries, shops, and restaurants, and we are pleased to once again offer free parking to encourage everyone to support local small businesses by doing their holiday shopping in the city," said Mayor Jon Mitchell.

Anyone parked at a meter in either the Downtown or on Acushnet Avenue while doing holiday shopping who receives a ticket as a result of parking in excess of the 2-hour limit, may mail or present their ticket along with a copy of a sales receipt for \$10.00 or more from a Downtown or North End Business District restaurant/merchant to the City of New Bedford Traffic Commission Office. The parking ticket will be forgiven with the presentation of the same day receipt.

The Traffic Commission Office is located at 51 Elm Street and is open from Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Questions regarding the Holiday Parking Program should be directed to the Traffic Commission Office at (508) 961-3153.

The 2017 Holiday Parking Program is presented by the Office of New Bedford Mayor Jon Mitchell in partnership with Downtown New Bedford Inc., and the New Bedford Economic Development Council.

###