

## TOP 10 ITEMS STOLEN FROM VEHICLES

1. STEREO EQUIPMENT: CD PLAYERS, AMPS, SPEAKERS, SUBWOOFERS
2. COMPACT DISCS
3. PERSONAL ITEMS (CLOTHES, SUNGLASSES, BAGS, BRIEFCASES, ETC)
4. COINS: LOOSE CHANGE
5. VEHICLE REGISTRATION PAPERS
6. GARAGE DOOR OPENERS
7. CELL PHONES, PORTABLE DVD AND MP3 PLAYERS
8. WORK TOOLS
9. VEHICLE AIRBAGS
10. TIRES AND WHEELS



*"It is encouraging to see the business community step forward in cooperation with the police to develop a program that will make our downtown even safer for residents, workers and visitors," says Vancouver City Councillor, Kim Capri.*

majority of the break-ins reported in parking lots," he adds.

"Participating in a community driven organization, such as the Safer Parking Initiative, helps us to realize those goals."

The VPD based their program on the highly successful 'Safer Parking Scheme' developed by in the UK, where 8,000 parking lots now display the Park Mark 'Park Mark' logo and vehicle crimes total dropped by eight per cent last year. Some individual 'Park Mark' facilities even reported an 80 per cent drop in vehicle-related crime, which parking managers have credited to the UK's Safer Parking Scheme.

Vancouver Police intend to use much of the intellectual capital gained from the UK experience, together with input from the coalition partners, to develop a "made in Vancouver" formula for safer parking in their city.

The Safer Parking Award is identifiable by the SPI logo, the use of which the VPD grants to parking facilities that meet their strict criteria. The names and addresses of facilities that obtain SPI designation are being promoted through the SPI website, marketing campaigns, and other media relations activities.

Two of the three largest parking companies in Vancouver – Diamond Parking Service (DPS) and city-owned EasyPark – were the first to jump on board to partner with the Vancouver Police in spearheading the SPI. As a result, several of each of their respective facilities are among the first to receive SPI accreditation.

The sites were inspected and evaluated by the VPD, and SPI accreditation was granted at locations where the parking companies made the changes necessary to meet criteria that deterred criminal activity and anti-social behaviour, which in turn, prevent crime, as well as reduce the fear of crime, in and around parking facilities.

"It is encouraging to see the business community step forward in cooperation with the police to develop a program that will make our downtown even safer for residents, workers and visitors," says Vancouver City Councillor, Kim Capri.

The Safer Parking Initiative is open to all businesses, community groups and other like-minded organizations that share the desire to help reduce crime and increase the public's confidence in our city, making Vancouver, British Columbia an even more desirable destination to work, live and visit. ■

*(Sources: Safer Parking Vancouver website; Integrated Municipal Provincial Auto Crime Team; Vancouver; Vancouver Police Bait Car Program.)*

*Author's note: Feyoun Khan is the Regional Vice President of Business Development for Diamond Parking Service (DPS) in Vancouver, BC. He earned his CCPFM designation in 2007. Feyoun can be reached by email at feyoun.khan@diamondparking.com.*

**Because parking isn't just  
where your customers  
leave their cars.**

LEVEL 8  
LEVEL 7  
LEVEL 6  
LEVEL 5  
LEVEL 4  
LEVEL 3  
LEVEL 2  
LEVEL 1

FULL  
FULL  
FULL  
FULL  
FULL  
FULL  
FULL  
FULL

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Ph. 978-443-2527 | Fax. 978-579-9545  
55 Union Avenue  
Sudbury, MA 01776