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## SoNo to Wall Street Shuttle Gets Trial Run During City Scavenger Hunt

Norwalk, CT (April 23, 2018) - Those participating in the <u>Citywide Scavenger Hunt</u> on April 28<sup>th</sup> won't have to get in their cars to search the city for clues. The Norwalk Parking Authority will be trying out a free shuttle that runs from the Wall Street district to South Norwalk during the City Hunt.

The free shuttle will run from 1:00pm to 12 midnight on the day of the Scavenger Hunt, allowing people who are participating in the contest to get back and forth from SoNo to Wall Street. The vans are picking up and dropping off at two locations: in SoNo at the North Water Street Lot near the Maritime Aquarium's IMAX entrance, and in the Wall District in front of the Wall Street Theater. There will be parking attendants and signage.

The van service will also be available to people going out on the town that evening. The Parking Authority will monitor usage during this short period and evaluate to see if they will continue this service, perhaps on a limited basis.

"The idea of a shuttle circulating the two downtown areas of Norwalk has been discussed for a number of years. We thought that the Citywide Scavenger Hunt is a good opportunity to pilot the idea and gauge its popularity," says Norwalk Mayor Harry Rilling. "I'll be taking part in the hunt and riding the vans as well, and I look forward to talking to those who take advantage of this free service."

The Citywide Scavenger Hunt will meet at O'Neill's Pub & Restaurant at 10:30 a.m. on April 28. Participants will be "hunting" throughout the downtown districts for some several dozen clues, culminating in a party (to be disclosed during the hunt). There is a \$40 entrance fee.

The Citywide Scavenger Hunt is being hosted by Norwalk Now, a part of MaxEx Public Relations, LLC, a marketing company that has entered a partnership with the Norwalk Parking Authority. The vans are provided and operated by LAZ Parking in collaboration with Norwalk Now and the Norwalk Parking Authority.

The shuttle is part of the Norwalk Parking Authority's mission to develop programs that promote economic development and increase visitor activity in the downtown districts. "A circulator shuttle will help to make it easy for people to come downtown, enjoy a meal, go shopping, go to the movies, see a show and not have to worry about getting back in your car to go from one place to another," says the Parking Authority's director Kathryn Hebert.

The Norwalk Parking Authority, comprised of five local citizens appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Common Council, is a financially self-sustaining organization responsible for the operation and maintenance of the municipal parking system in Norwalk. Its annual budget is not financed by taxpayer dollars. In addition to the oversight, operations, security and maintenance of the city's parking system and facilities, the Parking Authority works to promote and support economic development in Norwalk and provide opportunities to the community through new programs, new technologies, including smart parking, and collaboration with community organizations and businesses. The Norwalk Parking Authority can be reached at (203) 831-9063 or at <a href="https://www.norwalkpark.org">www.norwalkpark.org</a>.