What is this competition? The International Parking Institute (IPI) Parking Solutions Competition is a design and development parking challenge for college students actively enrolled in an undergraduate institution or actively pursuing a graduate degree.

The Challenge: Find an innovative new way to reduce single-occupant vehicles to maximize land use; increase mobility options; and decrease congestion, emissions, and pollution through parking solutions.

The Prize: $500 prize, a feature in The Parking Professional magazine, plus more.

Think Big – Be Creative – The Future of Parking is You!
Who:
University students actively enrolled in an undergraduate institution or actively pursuing a graduate degree that are 18 years of age or older as of May 18, 2017.

What is this competition?
The International Parking Institute (IPI) Parking Solutions Competition is a design and development challenge for college students. This inaugural competition is a chance for students to express their rendition of The Next Big Idea in parking. IPI seeks to engage students in a challenging parking solutions exercise based on real-world scenarios. Students can submit independently or form multi-disciplinary teams. Finalists will be selected on the basis of creativity, innovation, realism, applicability, scalability, overall presentation, and the ability to benchmark success and demonstrate return on investment.

Why this challenge:
At first glance, the question posed may not seem to be a parking challenge. However, parking is an essential element of the mobility equation. Parking and transportation go hand-in-hand – one cannot be planned, implemented, and managed effectively without the other. Too often and for far too long, planning and operating parking was an afterthought in the planning and design process for our cities, towns, and campuses. The urban landscape in particular has changed rapidly due to demographics, demand for more livable places and communities, and transformative (and disruptive) technologies. In the face of all this change, parking will play a vital role in the mobility equation – but it, too, will evolve. How can parking adapt, and be resilient and effective while taking advantage of financial, societal, and technological trends? That’s our challenge: to reduce the frequency and reliance on the single-occupant vehicle as the primary mode of transportation and craft more viable mobility solutions for the places we live, work, and play.

The challenge:
Find an innovative new way to reduce the use of single-occupant vehicles and:
• Maximize land use.
• Increase mobility options.
• Decrease congestion, emissions, and pollution through parking solutions.

What’s required:
1 Provide a brief narrative of your big idea – a short description of 1,000 to 1,500 words.
2 One of the following applications is required:
   • Mobile application.
   • Website or online service.
   • Plans/drawings/graphics.
   • 3/D Models/animation.
   • Video.

3 Formats include, but are not limited to the list above, and multiple formats may also be combined to illustrate the proposed parking solution. Additional formats may be proposed – contact Stephanie Santoro at santoro@parking.org.

Prizes:
In May 2017, the competition will sponsor one member of each finalist team to travel to the 2017 IPI Conference & Expo in New Orleans, La., to meet international experts and present their innovative idea at the Parking Solutions Competition ceremony, which will be recorded and shared widely on social media.

Finalists Receive:
• Roundtrip airfare and a two-night hotel stay in New Orleans for one person/team member (arrangements to be made by IPI). Additional participants may attend at their own expense.
• Free Conference registration valued at $1,299 for one person/team member.
• One complimentary year of student membership in IPI, the world’s leading and largest association for parking professionals.

Grand Prize Winner:
• $500 prize.
• Feature in The Parking Professional, IPI’s award-winning monthly magazine, showcasing your parking solution.
• Feature on parking.org.
• Press Release and blog posts.
• Bragging rights and social media recognition.

Where:
Finalists will be notified by March 2017, and travel to IPI’s 2017 Conference & Expo to present on May 23, 2017.

When:
Opening day of competition: December 1, 2016
Submissions due: February 15, 2016

Why:
The Parking Solutions competition is part of IPI’s ongoing effort to raise interest and awareness among the professionals of the future about the parking and transportation industries. The competition will address parking development patterns and the need for multidisciplinary solutions to design and development challenges for urban spaces, campuses, and parking and transportation challenges.

Questions:
Contact Stephanie Santoro at santoro@parking.org.

Electronic entry form (actual): surveymonkey.com/r/PBN7MYL.

Our Sponsor: