Academy of Architecture for Health



Webinar Title: Driving Diagnostic and Therapeutic Decisions: The Modern Clinical Laboratory

Webinar Date: May 11, 2021

Unanswered Attendee Questions with Responses

Q: Are there special vibration criteria for the structure?

A: Parking structures do not require special vibration criteria. Dynamic loading patterns and deflection limits are the basis for the design criteria. If the building has a mixed use of parking and sensitive imaging equipment, precautions should be taken.

Q: The red light / green light system is very revolutionary. In your experience, how much does the approximate cost per square foot increase per parking stall.

A: It can be difficult to offer a \$/sf increase as the technology is dependent upon the functional design and efficiency of the parking layout. We recommend a preliminary budget of \$700/space for single space camera based technology.

Q: In hospital, parking is like elevators that are never enough and never in the right place. Preferred parking methods are also like food that can be highly localized. How do you communicate to your client that the right metrics for their facility? Considering the rapid evolution of car sharing economy, do you foresee significant changes in both capacity and design of parking experience?

A: We try to base the parking demand on the needs of the hospital and developing a parking model based upon the previous 365 days of hospital activity and use that data to project a design day demand. This clarifies group needs at the user level and we can begin to locate the parking in the proper location.

Pick up/ drop-off, car sharing, and other modes of transportation are very dependent upon the individual location. The parking and mobility behaviors for Wichita Falls, Texas and Palo Alto, California vary greatly. Each site should be studied individually to find a best fit and project future demands in behavior changes.

Q: Wayfinding wise, vertical circulation such as elevators / escalators access and visibility. Should they be considered as part of parking, or would they be handled separately? Thank you.

A: The interior of a parking garage is an environment where modes of mobility shift from driver to pedestrian and wayfinding needs to account for this change. Font sizes, signage location, color, and mounting height should all be considered within the facility.