

## The Parking Plight

By Alyssa Kaplan



Chapman University is the loving home of over eight thousand students and yet, roughly eight hundred parking spots. Beginning at 8am, undergraduate, graduate, faculty, and employees begin to fill each of these spots that at first seems like a lot! Not every enrolled student is on main campus at the same time so over eight hundred spots should allow students to arrive to school twenty minutes before class, park, and have enough time to walk through campus and say hi to a few friends right? Wrong. By 9:45am each and every spot is taken. The dreaded red words fill the monitor outside the Lastinger parking lot reading: FULL.

So what does this mean for the students? Well, there are a few options. Option one is to arrive about an hour early and be one who is blessed with incredible patience to drive around the lot again and again hoping someone will be leaving just as you are approaching his or her spot. Option two, is to plan strategically to arrive just as a class block is being released and stalkishly wait at the bottom of the stairs to follow that person to their car. Option three is to park at a different lot, detached from main campus, and hope you left yourself enough time to possibly find a spot in that lot and then walk back to school. The last, and most dreaded option is to park on the street somewhere around campus that is about 5 blocks away so you do not get a ticket from the beloved Orange Police Department.

Chapman University is an increasingly growing college that each year becomes more well known and higher up on high school senior's top schools list. We have built beautiful new buildings, are in the process of building a brand new dorm, and continue to take over the little town of Orange. If we are going to proceed with fostering this expansion, we need to find a place to park all of the students' cars because soon that eight thousand will become ten, then twelve and who knows where it will be when this generation of students has their own children ready to attend college. It is time to expand the parking for main campus and have it be within reasonable distance and timing for students who are trying to attend class and learn without having to be marked tardy because parking is a huge plight at Chapman University.