

As a commuting student at USC, finding parking during busy class hours can be one of the biggest daily challenges. Most mornings, it's normal to spend 20 or more minutes driving around different lots trying to find an open spot, especially near the horseshoe and the Molinaroli engineering building. This often makes students late to class, wastes gas, and causes a lot of stress before the day even starts.

Right now, USC provides parking maps and guidance, but there isn't a way to see what's available in real time. The lack of live updates means that by the time you get to a certain lot, it's already full — forcing you to circle again or move farther away from campus. This not only wastes time, but also affects attendance, focus, and overall motivation for students who already have long commutes.

Having a trustworthy way to check parking availability before arriving on campus would save time and reduce frustration for hundreds of commuters every day. A real-time tracking tool, whether it's through yet another USC app, it could help commuting students plan their arrivals better, cut down on fuel costs, and make it easier to get to class on time. Even a feature that predicts which lots tend to fill up first could make a big difference in making commuting smoother and less stressful.