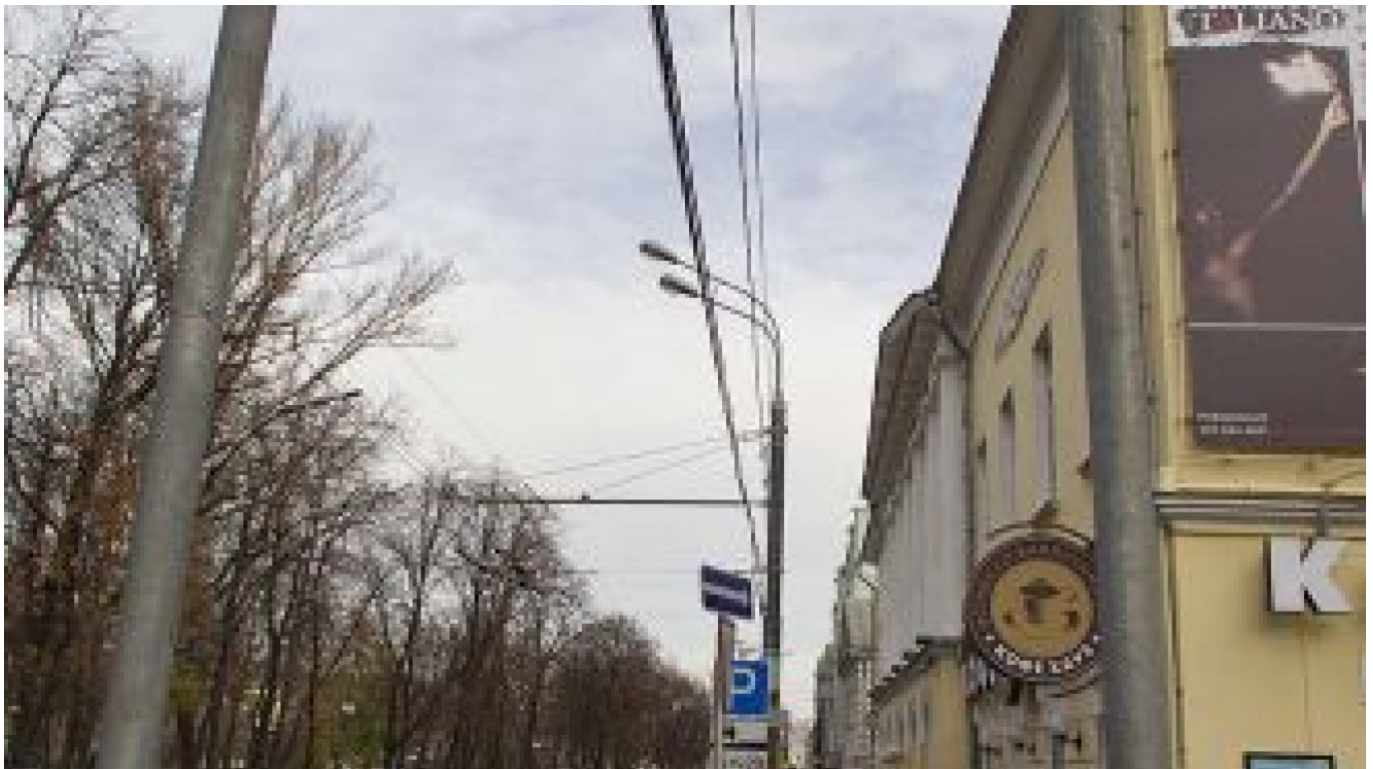


Paid Parking Limited to Center

By [The Moscow Times](#)

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Paid parking was introduced last November, increasing traffic speed. **Igor Tabakov**

City authorities have said paid parking will only be introduced within the city center, Vedomosti reported.

Initial plans to introduce paid parking within the 3rd Ring Road by 2015 will not be implemented, and only within the Boulevard Ring will car owners have to pay 50 rubles (close to \$2) per hour starting from next month.

“We want to organize a system for the city center first, and then we’ll see,” Deputy Mayor Maxim Liksutov said in comments carried by Vedomosti on Monday.

Another City Hall official, who wished to remain anonymous, said authorities had scrapped their initial plans because they did not want to “stir up” city residents before mayoral elections in 2015.

The initial plans

to introduce
paid parking
within the 3rd
Ring Road were
canceled, with
paid parking
limited to the
Boulevard Ring.

Paid parking was introduced in several districts within the center last November, helping to increase traffic speed to 8 percent, according to Liksutov.

Moscow car owners will be able to choose whether to pay for parking by text message, a mobile phone app or by using a parking machine. There will also be the option of buying an annual pass costing 3,000 rubles (\$100) for those living within the Boulevard Ring.

Authorities hope paid-parking initiatives will decrease the number of cars in the city center by a third by encouraging city residents use public transportation.

But Mikhail Kashtanov, a transportation analyst with the Geozhizn news portal, told Vedomosti that in order to eliminate traffic jams, paid parking should be introduced in areas with high congestion levels, irrespective of whether they were located within the Boulevard Ring or not.

n Lider, a company controlled by Yury Kovalchuk, could build Moscow's first toll road, which is expected to run along Kutuzovsky Prospekt, Vedomosti reported, citing a construction industry source and Lider CEO Anatoly Gavrilenko.

Kovalchuk is reportedly a close associate of President Vladimir Putin.

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