



Posted on Tue, Oct. 19, 2010

Orlando parking meters collect money for homeless

The Associated Press

Orlando city officials will install repurposed parking meters designed to accept donations for the homeless around the city. The city has drawn criticism for harsh dealings with the homeless in the past.

City leaders on Monday approved 15 "donation meters." The proceeds will go to a homeless charity.

The city has come under attack after prohibiting charity groups from feeding the homeless in public parks. During the day, panhandling is allowed only in 27 specific spots in blue boxes painted on the sidewalk. Panhandling is banned in downtown Orlando after dark.

Critics say the new meters will take money away from panhandlers because the meters will be placed near the few designated spots where they're allowed to stand.

© 2010 Miami Herald Media Company. All Rights Reserved.
<http://www.miamiherald.com>