

## QR code scam

Scammers found to be adding a QR code to parking meters. People who scanned the code to pay for parking would be taken to a malicious site that collected their credit card info.

|It may be very difficult to detect whether the QR code is valid or not, especially if the city actually uses QR codes on their parking meters to allow for parking payment.

One possible mitigation would be to use a QR code scanner that can detect or track known malicious sites and block you from accessing them such as Sophos Intercept X for Mobile (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.sophos.smsec>)

Even this is not a panacea. The malicious site could be brand new and not detected as malicious, but it is better than nothing.

Be suspicious.



**Austin Police Department** @Austin\_Police

**Scam Alert**

APD Financial Crimes detectives are investigating after fraudulent QR code stickers were discovered on City of Austin public parking meters. People attempting to pay for parking using those QR codes may have been directed to a fraudulent website and made a payment.

**BEWARE OF PAY TO PARK SCAM!**

Fraudulent QR code stickers discovered on City of Austin public parking meters.

Call 3-1-1 or go to [ireportaustin.com](http://ireportaustin.com) if you are a victim of a credit card breach.

The image is a screenshot of a tweet from the Austin Police Department (@Austin\_Police). The tweet contains a 'Scam Alert' and a graphic. The graphic features a 'PARKING' sign with a QR code sticker on it, a hand holding a smartphone scanning the QR code, and a parking meter. The text in the graphic reads 'BEWARE OF PAY TO PARK SCAM!' and 'Fraudulent QR code stickers discovered on City of Austin public parking meters.' Below the graphic, it says 'Call 3-1-1 or go to ireportaustin.com if you are a victim of a credit card breach.' The Austin Police Department logo is also visible in the bottom right corner of the graphic.