



To: Council President Mary Sheffield
From: Keith Hutchins, Director
Department of Municipal Parking
Date: March 20, 2023
Re: Responses to FY23-24 Budget Questions

Please find below responses to your questions sent on March 15, 2023, regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget for Municipal Parking Department.

1. What capital improvements are needed for the Ford Underground parking lot? Please provide a timeline for all needed repairs .

In 2016, the Detroit Building Authority at the request of Municipal Parking, conducted a study of the structural condition of Ford Underground Garage to determine the capital investment need. The cost estimate of \$21,000,000 was determined to address structural and life safety issues to maintain the long-term use of the structure. Nearly eight (8) years have passed since the initial report which will necessitate an updated study to determine if any additional rehabilitation is needed and verify the additional cost due to time and scope increase. Once funding is available, Municipal Parking will move immediately to address structural rehabilitation.

2. Is the department planning to conduct a city-wide parking plan study?

The Municipal Parking Department does not have immediate plans for a citywide parking study but is working towards developing the capacity to do so in the future. Currently, a job description is being drafted to hire the first of multiple positions to provide professional parking analysis and planning. Such a study is a multi-year ongoing project.

3. How does the department advertise the residential discount parking ticket program?

The Municipal Parking Department communicates the residential discount via its website, City Council community engagement, the Department of Neighborhoods community engagement, media releases, and public relations campaigns.

4. What is the status of the residential permit parking in Brush Park? What changes have been made since the community engagement meetings in January?

The Municipal Parking Department has submitted residential zone proposed areas for Cass Park, Selden, Southern Brush Park, Central Brush Park, and Northern Brush Park, to the Law Department to draft the necessary resolutions for City Council to hold public hearings and vote on the proposals. The Cass Park proposal was submitted to City Council in October 2022 and



the remaining proposals will be forwarded to City Council upon completion by the Law Department. Minor changes to Brush Park proposals are reflected in the expansion and repositioning of some initial residential zones.

- 5. The department operates 500 parking meter kiosks, 3 parking zones and 13 subzones, does the department plan to expand these regions? Where and when, if so?**

The department plans to continue to operate the existing series of 100, 200, and 300 metered zones. These zones comprise the Central Business District (100), the Midtown/New Center area (200), and all other areas are classified in the 300 series. Any expansion would be within these zones, most likely in the form of residential zones.

- 6. On page B34-5, there is a significant decrease in operating services from FY 23 to FY 24. Please explain why.**

In FY2024 utilities cost of \$592,806 was moved from the MPD budget and reallocated to Non-Departmental.

- 7. How has the implementation of bike lanes impacted municipal parking spaces?**

Bike lanes have only affected parking spaces on streets too narrow to comfortably maintain parking, protected bike lanes, and vehicular traffic simultaneously. In these instances, parking has been removed or vehicular traffic, such as public bus traffic, has been challenged as buses seek to navigate extremely narrow right-of-way streets. This creates pressure to remove parking which negatively impacts businesses relying on on-street parking to support the economic activity. In addition, equity access to these areas as well as capacity for handicap parking is diminished as on-street parking is reduced to support bike lanes.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Hutchings'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Keith Hutchings, Director
Municipal Parking Department