MEMO

TO: Municipal Services Committee

FROM: Paula Vandehey, Director of Public Works

DATE: August 17, 2014

SUBJECT: Resolution #24-R-14 – Martin/Trauger regarding school bus parking for

The Building for Kids.

Resolution #24-R-14 - Martin/Trauger

WHEREAS, Appleton's Children's Museum is a popular destination for schools to plan a bus field trip to the museum

WHEREAS, present parking and unloading of young school age children from buses are done on Washington Street

WHEREAS, small children are lead across two very busy exiting driveways during a variety of weather conditions

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Appleton move parking to College Avenue with the same layout as Washington Street. This allows for the buses to unload the small children right in front of the museum and improve safety. As well as showing a busy downtown.

Department of Public Works and The Building for Kids staff met to discuss this Resolution on August 7, 2014. All parties support the idea of moving the parking from Washington Street to College Avenue to improve safety for kids walking to and from the busses. However, it was agreed that there is a better way for the bus parking to be provided on College Avenue than the existing arrangement on Washington Street. Currently signage and yellow meters are used to designate bus parking only from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Monday through Friday. This arrangement works well for the busses, but artificially takes away from general downtown customer parking even if there are no bus trips planned for that particular day. Also, although we believe the existing signage is more than adequate, visitors continue to receive \$40 tickets for parking in this bus loading zone area during the loading zone hours.

A proposal that was developed during our meeting was to have Parking Utility staff place specialized meter bags on the 5 meters in front of the Building For Kids per a weekly schedule provided by the museum (see attached map) and then Building For Kids staff would remove the meter bags as soon as the busses left College Avenue. This method would significantly limit the time the stalls are not available to other customers and more readily identify this area when it is for bus loading only.

Per City Policy, meter bags are charged at \$9 per meter per day. Currently, there are 5 yellow meters on Washington Street for the bus loading area at no charge to The Building for Kids. Because the meter bag concept significantly reduces the time these stalls will not be available for general customer parking, we recommend that the meter bag fee be waived in lieu of the yellow meter concept as identified in Resolution #24-R-14.

