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To: Municipal Services Committee

From: Mike Hardy, Assistant City Traffic Engineer

**Date:** April 11, 2018

**Re:** Proposed 2-HR parking restriction change on block of 1500 W. Washington St.

Follow-Up to Six-Month Trial Period

In September of 2017, our office was contacted by Alderperson Christine Williams and residents on the 1500 block of W. Washington Street about the existing 2-hr parking restriction. They requested the existing restriction be removed. Concerns were expressed that the current is no longer needed.

Our files indicate the 2-hr restriction was implemented in the 1980's. Unfortunately, our records do not detail the exact reason. We speculate the businesses to the west had a situation where employees were parking all day during work hours on the streets. Thus, the 2-hr restriction was likely implemented to deter these vehicles from parking on the 1500 block. Times change, and our office would concur the existing restriction may no longer be needed. My office did survey the parking conditions over several weeks at various times and did not notice any concerns. We also checked with Aramark and feel their parking needs are limited to the 1600 block of W. Washington Street.

In response, our office tested a change to the on-street parking restriction. The restriction "Parking be restricted to two (2) hours from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays" which extends approximately 300-ft east of Douglas Street, was reduced to approximately 55-ft east of Douglas Street. We felt that some 2-hr restriction is reasonable to deter the risk that some business parking could return to this block over time. See enclosed illustration for addition detail.

This change was implemented as a trial from October 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 through April 15<sup>th</sup> 2018. While other residents expressed concern this change would have the unintended effect of inviting unwanted parking back to this block, we feel this behavior has not prevailed during this trail. There has been an increase of parking on this block, but observations indicate the vehicle belong to the property owners and tenants of the homes the street is intended to serve.

We believe the trial has improved accessibility of on street parking to the residents without the being monopolized by nearby businesses. Also during observations, there was available parking on the west side of Douglas Street closer to the businesses that we feel would be preferred over the block of 1500 W. Washington Street. As such we recommend making the change permanent.

## To accomplish this, the following ordinance action is required:

- 1. **Repeal 124-3-87:** "Parking be restricted to two hours from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays on both sides of Washington Street from the east right-of-way line of Douglas Street to 300' east."
- 2. *Create:* "Parking be restricted to two hours from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., except Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, on both sides of Washington Street from Douglas Street to a point 55' east of Douglas Street."

