

Item 24-0391: Approve the request from The Boldt Company for a street occupancy permit for the Trout Museum of Art - Lawrence University project along College Avenue (Drew to Durkee Street), Drew Street (College to Kimball Alley) and Kimball Alley (between Drew Street and Durkee Street) for a period ending November 01, 2024

Common Council

Wed, Apr 17, 2024 7:00PM

Mayor Jake Woodford 48:14

Alright, we'll move on next to the item from municipal services committee. This is item 24-0391 request to—approve the request from the Boldt Company for a street occupancy permit for the Trout Museum of Art Lawrence University project along College Avenue, Drew to Durkee street, Drew Street, and Kimball alley for a period ending November 1, 2024. We have a motion and a second to approve.

Mayor Jake Woodford 48:47

Alder Hartzheim.

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 48:49

Thank you, Chair. During the municipal services committee meeting, we had some back and forth discussions about perhaps weekend openings for some of these streets. And I am wondering if we could find out from staff what agreements have been made in that regard or if any, thank you.

Mayor Jake Woodford 49:05

Director Block.

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 49:06

Thank you, Your Honor. Staff was able to meet with the contractor Boldt to talk about the construction staging, construction limits, and duration associated with the project. It was a series of a couple of meetings. We went through probably two to three alternatives based on the materials that will be staged, the equipment that's being used. If modifications were made, it caused impacts into the travel lanes of College Avenue. So, for every alternative that was generated, we had greater negative impacts to the traveling public. So, no changes were made to the perimeter of the permit, the street occupancy permit, and it was not feasible to open and pull the construction limits back and forth on weekends.

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 49:59

Thank you.

Mayor Jake Woodford 50:03

Alder Alfheim.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 50:05

Thank you, Chair. I appreciate the extra effort in asking. I think the challenge that we have—I had a humongous number of phone calls and emails on this issue. And I think the issue is that it was seemingly a surprise. And often we find ourselves approving something after these large concrete closures have already happened. And I

understand the temporary permits versus the long term. Either way the residents felt unheard in that they didn't know it was coming.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 50:35

They've all made arrangements. They all have figured it out as we expect, but I think it would be nice if we could from a time perspective actually give a little bit of—we're sending out a letter on having a sidewalk replaced how long from now, and yet residents right down the road don't realize that their main drag is going to close. So, I would just ask if we could keep that in mind and so that our residents do feel that they're being communicated with and made aware when we can, and thank you again for trying.

Mayor Jake Woodford 51:10

Any further discussion? Hearing none, we have a motion and a second to approve. Please cast your votes. Motion passes 14 to zero. The item has been approved.

Mayor Jake Woodford 51:39

And Alder Alfheim the—your feedback is well taken on communication around these things. I appreciate that, and we'll do our best. This is always a tension that we're trying to navigate being accommodating and trying to help projects move along. But we appreciate the feedback certainly.