

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

02-275

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

AGENDA:

SYNOPSIS -

MAY 20, 2002

Revisions to traffic and parking regulations around the Masonic Temple have been reviewed by staff and are recommended for approval.

SUBJECT:

FISCAL IMPACT -

PARKING CHANGES
FOR MASONIC
TEMPLE

Minor costs for signing and parking meter changes to be paid from the Traffic and Transportation Operating Budget.

TYPE:

RECOMMENDATION -

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

Receive, file and refer to Legal Department for proper legislation.

SUBMITTED BY:

BACKGROUND -

JEB E. BREWER, P.E.
CITY ENGINEER

The redevelopment of the Masonic Temple at 10th and Locust Streets will involve different parking needs than the previous use of the building. In particular, the building is expected to include a restaurant and coffee shop, which will need a loading zone and short term metered parking. In addition, the coffee shop will generate a strong demand for short term parking during the morning peak period.

Vehicles parking on the north side of Locust will reduce the number of traffic lanes from four lanes to three lanes during the peak periods, especially the morning peak period, which will create some additional congestion on Locust Street. However, the curb lanes on Locust are used primarily for turning vehicles at major intersections, rather than for through vehicles, so the congestion is not expected to be excessive. This section of Locust Street has been reduced to three lanes for a number of months due to the construction of the Allied/Nationwide building, and the congestion has not been excessive. In the future, improvements to the Ingersoll/High corridor that are scheduled for 2003, and completion of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway by 2004,

will provide alternate routes for downtown traffic and minimize the additional congestion on Locust.

Traffic and Transportation staff met with representatives of the Masonic Temple project and reached agreement on the needed changes to the parking and traffic regulations. Two-hour metered parking will be provided on the west side of 10th Street south of Grand, as well as the north side of Locust from 10th to 11th Street; a loading zone on the west side of 10th Street by the northeast corner of the building and a loading zone on the north side of Locust in front of the main building entrance; two 30-minute meters that provide 15 minutes of free parking on the north side of Locust near the main building entrance; and a handicap meter near the southwest corner of the building. The existing parking restriction from 7-9 AM and 4-6 PM on the north side of Locust from 10th to 11th will be removed and parking allowed at the meters during those times.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed changes. If approved by Council, the specific distances for the various elements will be included in the ordinance for first consideration at the June 3 Council meeting.
