



Joshua A. Garcia Mayor

Kris Baker, P.E. City Engineer

City of Holyoke

Department of Public Works

To: Public Safety Committee
From: Kris Baker, P.E, City Engineer
CC: Amie Chrzanowski, Acting General Superintendent, Michael Bissonnette, Assistant City Solicitor
Date: November 18, 2022

**RE: Public Safety Committee Meeting – November 21, 2022
Department of Public Works Related Orders**

This memorandum summarizes the Department of Public Work's (DPW) responses to the applicable orders on the agenda for the November 21, 2022 Public Safety Committee meeting.

Item 5: 10-18-22 RIVERA_I -- That the city explore using cannabis impact fee funds to improve sidewalks on the following streets: Main Street, North Bridge St., Lyman Street, and center St.

Main Street may be targeted for a complete streets project in the future. North Bridge Street, Lyman Street, and Center Street will be assessed as part of the CDBG sidewalk project in this fiscal year or next fiscal year. A decision about the replacement of brick sidewalks with concrete will need to be made.

Item 11: 6-21-22 JOURDAIN, TALLMAN -- That the PVTA be requested to replace their bus shelter on South Street at the South Street shopping plaza. Bus riders have gone some time without the prior shelter. *Tabled 8-8-22, 9-19-22

The DPW installed the concrete pad as requested. The PVTA is responsible for erecting the shelter. Paul Burns from the PVTA has indicated they are trying to find a crew to install the shelter.

Item 12: 3-15-22 MCGEE -- that the legal department review the alley way near 5 Fairfield Ave to determine if it is city property and that the DPW repair the fence and alley from its vehicles going through. See attached photo. *Tabled 3-29-22, 6-27-22, 9-19-22

Mike Bissonnette is going to comment on this issue as it is a complicated ownership question due to the deed naming the property boundary to the border of the alley and a subsequent sewer easement.

Item 13: 6-21-22 ANDERSON-BURGOS -- That the DPW seek an alternative solution for rock salt. Salt is corrosive to vehicles and roads and can contaminate drinking water and be toxic to wildlife. *Tabled 8-8-22

Public drinking water supply areas are treated with a special mix with a higher percentage of sand. The DPW does not have capacity at this time to explore different applications.

Item 14: 10-18-22 GIVNER -- With Community support, Order to increase trash can minimum to 50 gallons for municipal pickup service, as our DPW accommodates piles of trash bags in

lieu of required current 35 gallon size. This in an effort to increase can use participation in order to mitigate the health hazards of torn and rummaged through piled bags for pickup.

There is currently a Holyoke Waste Management Advisory group exploring improvements to the current solid waste and recycling collection and transfer station operations. The current limitations remain at 35-gallon barrels for refuse. Although the DPW sometimes collects bags of trash from the sidewalk, loose bags are not allowed under our ordinance. In addition, 50-gallon barrels would be too heavy to be lifted into the garbage trucks under the current operations in which the bags are hand-lifted into the trucks. Through ARPA funding, there is \$525,000 to order standardized trash barrels for residents to make trash pickup more efficient. These barrels may be larger than 35-gallons and would be compatible with tipping garbage trucks and therefore the crews would not have to pick them up. Councilors are welcome to attend the Advisory Committee meetings. Contact Amie Chrzanowski for the schedule.

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