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April 26th, 2023

Honorable City Council:

RE: Petition No. x2023-012 – Ford Motor Company requests to vacate to utility easement part of Wabash Street, south of Bagley Street. Also, for encroachment of light poles and conduits into Wabash Street east of and adjacent to 1501 Wabash.

Petition No. x2023-012 – Ford Motor Company requests to vacate to utility easement part of Wabash Street, 65 ft. wide, south of Bagley Street. Also, for encroachment of light poles and conduits into Wabash Street east of and adjacent to 1501 Wabash.

The petition was referred to the City Engineering Division – DPW for investigation (utility review) and report. This is our report.

The request is made as part of the site development at 1501 Wabash Street.

The request was approved by the Solid Waste Division – DPW, and Traffic Engineering Division – DPW, and City Engineering - DPW.

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) has no objection provided certain provisions are met. The DWSD provisions are a part of the attached resolution.

All other involved City Departments, and privately owned utility companies have reported no objections. Provisions protecting utility installations are part of the attached resolution.

I am recommending adoption of the attached resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Doherty, P.E., City Engineer City Engineering Division – DPW

Cc: Ron Brundidge, Director, DPW
Mayor's Office – City Council Liaison

RESOLVED, Part of Wabash Street, 65 ft. wide, south of Bagley Street, 80 ft. wide, further described as land in the City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan being: the westerly 2.5 ft. of Wabash Street lying easterly of and adjacent to lots 104 and 105 and the northerly 21.8 of lot 108 of "Godfroy Farm" as recorded in Liber 1, Page 132 of Plats, Wayne County Records.

Be and the same is hereby vacated as public right-of-way and converted into a private easement for public utilities of the full width of the right-of-way, which easement shall be subject to the following covenants and agreements, uses, reservations and regulations, which shall be observed by the owners of the lots abutting on said right-of-way and by their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, forever to wit:

First, said owners hereby grant to and for the use of the public an easement or right-of-way over said vacated public right of way herein above described for the purposes of maintaining, installing, repairing, removing, or replacing public utilities such as water mains, sewers, gas lines or mains, telephone, electric light conduits or poles or things usually placed or installed in a public right-of-way in the City of Detroit, with the right to ingress and egress at any time and over said easement for the purpose above set forth.

Second, said utility easement or right-of-way in and over said vacated right of way herein above described shall be forever accessible to the maintenance and inspection forces of the utility companies, or those specifically authorized by them, for the purpose of inspecting, installing, maintaining, repairing, removing, or replacing any sewer, conduit, water main, gas line or main, telephone or light pole or any utility facility placed or installed in the utility easement or right-of-way. The utility companies shall have the right to cross or use the driveways and yards of the adjoining properties for ingress and egress at any time to and over said utility easement with any necessary equipment to perform the above mentioned task, with the understanding that the utility companies, other than that specifically prohibited by this resolution, shall restore the easement surface to a satisfactory condition,

Third, said owners for their heirs and assigns further agree that no buildings or structures of any nature whatsoever including, but not limited to, concrete slabs or driveways, retaining or partition walls (except necessary line fences or gates), shall be built or placed upon said easement, nor change of surface grade made, without prior approval of the City Engineering Division – DPW,

Fourth, that if the owners of any lots abutting on said vacated right of way shall request the removal and/or relocation of any existing poles or other utilities in said easement; such owners shall pay all costs incidental to such removal and/or relocation, unless such charges are waived by the utility owners,

Fifth, that if any utility located in said property shall break or be damaged as a result of any action on the part of said owners or assigns (by way of illustration but not limitation) such as storage of excessive weights of materials or construction not in accordance with Section 3, mentioned above, then in such event said owners or assigns shall be liable for all costs incidental to the repair of such broken or damaged utility; and

PROVIDED, that property owners maintain for DTE Energy, full access to their facilities at all times (i.e. gated access with DTE locks at all ends of the easement) and that free and easy access to the DTE facilities is reserved for DTE equipment, including the use of backhoes, bull dozers, cranes or pipe trucks, and other heavy construction equipment, as necessary for the alteration or repair of DTE facilities, and further

PROVIDED, that an easement, the full width of the existing right-of-way, is reserved for the Detroit Water and Sewage Department for the purpose of installing, maintaining, repairing, removing, or replacing any sewers, water mains, fire hydrants and appurtenances, with the right of ingress and egress at any time to, and over said easement for the purpose above set forth; and be it further

PROVIDED, that free and easy access to the sewers, water mains, fire hydrants and appurtenances within the easement is required for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department equipment including the use of backhoes, bull dozers, cranes or pipe trucks, and other heavy construction equipment, as necessary for the alteration or repair of the sewer or water main facilities; and be it further

PROVIDED, that the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department retains the right to install suitable permanent main location guide post over its water mains at reasonable intervals and at points deflection; and be it further

PROVIDED, that said owners of the adjoining property, for themselves, their heirs and assigns, agree that no building or structure of any nature whatsoever, including porches, patios, balconies, etc., shall be built upon said easement without prior written approval and agreement with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department; and be it further

PROVIDED, that if any time in the future, the owners of any lots abutting on said vacated right of way shall request the removal and/or relocation of the aforementioned utilities in said easement, such owners shall pay all costs incident to such removal and/or relocation. It is further provided that if sewers, water mains, and/or appurtenances in said easement shall break or be damaged as a result of any action on the part of the owner, or assigns, then in such event, the owner or assigns shall be liable for the costs incident to the repair of such broken or damaged sewers and water mains, and shall also be liable for all claims for damages resulting from his action and be it further

PROVIDED, that if it becomes necessary to remove the paved right of way returns at the entrances such removal and construction of the new curb and sidewalk shall be done under city permit and inspection according to City Engineering Division – DPW specification with all costs borne by the abutting owner(s), their heirs or assigns; and further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Public Works, City Engineering Division is hereby authorized and directed to issue permits to Ford Motor Company or their assigns to install and maintain request for various encroachments within Bagley Street and Wabash Street, further described as: Land in the City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan;

- 1. Light pole, to be installed within the Wabash Street right of way, 65 ft. wide, located approx. 13 ft. east of the westerly line of Wabash Street, as platted 65 ft. wide, and approx. 8 ft. south of the southerly line of Bagley Street, 80 ft. wide as widened on September 20, 2022. Said light pole will be 2' x 2' x 14', the below grade concrete foundation will be 6' deep and include 1" PVC for conduit feed.
- 2. Light pole, to be installed within the Wabash Street right of way, 65 ft. wide, located approx. 9.3 ft. east of the westerly line of Wabash Street, as platted 65 ft. wide, and approx. 49.5 ft. south of the southerly line of Bagley Street, 80 ft. wide as widened on September 20, 2022. Said light pole will be 2' x 2' x 14', the below grade concrete foundation will be 6' deep and include 1" PVC for conduit feed.
- 3. Conduits, a conduit line will be installed below grade to connect power to the two described light poles. Conduits will be incased in 1' PVC and be buried 36" below grade. Said conduit line will be located approx. 33.6' east of the westerly line of Wabash Street, as platted 65 ft. wide, as the conduit line runs north from the vacated portion of Wabash, now commonly known as 1501 Wabash St, until reaching a point parallel to the southerly most light pole, be which the conduit line routes west to the light pole. The conduit line then runs diagonally from the southerly most light pole to the northerly most light pole.

PROVIDED, that if there is any cost for the removing and/or rerouting of any utility facilities, it shall be done at the expense of the petitioner and/or property owner; and be it further

PROVIDED, that access is maintained to all fire department connections, and be it further

PROVIDED, that by approval of this petition the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) does not waive any of its rights to its facilities located in the right-of-way, and at all times, DWSD, its agents or employees, shall have the right to enter upon the right-of-way to maintain, repair, alter, service, inspect, or install its facilities. All costs incident to the damaging, dismantling, demolishing, removal and replacement of structures or other improvements herein permitted and incurred in gaining access to DWSD's facilities for maintenance, repairing, alteration, servicing or inspection caused by the encroachment shall be borne by the petitioner. All costs associated with gaining access to DWSD's facilities, which could normally be expected had the petitioner not encroached into the right-of-way, shall be borne by DWSD; and be it further

PROVIDED, that all construction performed under this petition shall not be commenced until after (5) days written notice to DWSD. Seventy-two (72) hours' notice shall also be provided in accordance with P.A. 53 1974, as amended, utilizing the MISS DIG one call system; and be it further

PROVIDED, that construction under this petition is subject to inspection and approval by DWSD forces. The cost of such inspection shall, at the discretion of DWSD, be borne by the petitioner; and be it further

PROVIDED, that if DWSD facilities located within the right-of-way shall break or be damaged as the result of any action on the part of the petitioner, then in such event the petitioner agrees to be liable for all costs incident to the repair, replacement or relocation of such broken or damaged DWSD facilities; and be it further

PROVIDED, that the petitioner shall hold DWSD harmless for any damages to the encroaching device constructed or installed under this petition which may be caused by the failure of DWSD's facilities; and be it further

PROVIDED, Ford Motor Company or their assigns shall apply to the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department for a building permit prior to any construction. Also, if it becomes necessary to open cut public streets, bore, jack, occupy or barricade city rights-of-way for maintenance of encroachments such work shall be according to detail permit application drawings submitted to the City Engineering Division – DPW prior to any public right-of-way construction; and further

PROVIDED, that the necessary permits shall be obtained from the City Engineering Division – DPW and the Buildings and Safety Engineering Department. The encroachments shall be constructed and maintained under their rules and regulations; and further

PROVIDED, that all cost for the construction, maintenance, permits and use of the encroachments shall be borne by Ford Motor Company or their assigns, and further

PROVIDED, that all costs incurred by privately owned utility companies and/or city departments to alter, adjust, and/or relocate their existing utility facilities located in close proximity to the encroachments shall be borne by Ford Motor Company or their assigns. Should damages to utilities occur Ford Motor Company or their assigns shall be liable for all incidental repair costs and waives all claims for damages to the encroaching installations; and further

PROVIDED, that no other rights in the public streets, alleys or other public place shall be considered waived by this permission which is granted expressly on the condition that said encroachments shall be removed at any time when so directed by the City Council, and the public property affected shall be restored to a condition satisfactory to the City Engineering Division – DPW; and further

PROVIDED, that Ford Motor Company or their assigns shall file with the Department of Public Works — City Engineering Division an indemnity agreement in form approved by the Law Department. The agreement shall save and protect the City of Detroit from any and all claims, damages or expenses that may arise by reason of the issuance of the permits and the faithful or unfaithful performance of Ford Motor Company or their assigns of the terms thereof. Further, Ford Motor Company or their assigns shall agree to pay all claims, damages or expenses that may arise out of the use, repair and maintenance of the proposed encroachments; and further

PROVIDED, that construction of the encroachments shall constitute acceptance of the terms and conditions as set forth in this resolution; and be it further

PROVIDED, this resolution is revocable at the will, whim or caprice of the City Council, and Ford Motor Company acquires no implied or other privileges hereunder not expressly stated herein; and further

PROVIDED, that the encroachment permits shall not be assigned or transferred without the written approval of the City Council; and be it further

PROVIDED, that the City Clerk shall within 30 days record a certified copy of this resolution with the Wayne County Register of Deeds.

