



CITY OF DETROIT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CITY ENGINEERING DIVISION

COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER
2 WOODWARD AVE. SUITE 601
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226
PHONE: (313) 224-3949 • TTY:711
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WWW.DETROITMI.GOV

April 13, 2023

Honorable City Council:

RE: Petition Number x2023-119 – Catholic Archdiocese, Request for the Temporary closure of Cambridge Avenue, between Ohio and Cherrylawn, for a period of five (5) years.

The above referenced petition has been investigated by the DPW- City Engineering Division. This is our report.

The purpose of this request is to improve traffic management related to the U of D Jesuit High School at 8400 South Cambridge Avenue. The proposal to close Cambridge Avenue was first considered under petition x540 in 2015. The original petition requested the vacation of Cambridge Avenue but was changed to a temporary closure during the utility review. Petition x540 was approved by Your Honorable Body on June 16th, 2015, for a length of 5 years, to expire on June 1st, 2020. Upon approval, U-D Jesuit placed two concrete barriers on Cambridge Avenue east of the alley approach. Also installed was a sign indicating “No Thru Traffic”.

After the 5 year temporary closure period ended, U-D made no immediate effort to extend the temporary closure or to request a permanent vacation of the street. After multiple conversations with representatives of the school, as well as some of the residents, DPW facilitated the physical removal the barriers from the road in January 2023.

On January 16, 2023, DPW received a new application from U-D, requesting to extend the closure for another five (5) year period. This is the request that is before Your Honorable Body for consideration.

DPW acknowledges that there is not 100% agreement between the neighborhood residents on this closure request. Therefore, we have not made a recommendation as to whether it should be approved or denied. We have however provided background information for Your Honorable Body to take into consideration prior to voting on this request.

There are 59 occupied properties on Ohio and Cherrylawn streets, in the immediate blocks north and south of Cambridge. A petition (attached) was generated and signed by 52 individuals. However, DPW could only verify that eleven (11) of these supporting signatures were from adjacent property owners. The other 42 signatures did not match the owners on



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record. We are also aware of at least one (1) citizen who is on the record as being in strong opposition to the closure.

Finally, for your consideration, it is DPW's Traffic Engineering Division's position that the closure of this one block will have no major negative impact on traffic flow through the community. All other impacted city departments and utilities have reported no objections to the temporary closure, provided they always have rights of ingress and egress to their facilities. Provisions protecting the rights of the utilities and the City are a part of this resolution.

The Department of Public Works has prepared the attached resolution to be considered by Your Honorable Body.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

BY COUNCIL MEMBER _____

RESOLVED, The City Engineering Division – DPW is hereby authorized and directed to issue permit for the temporary closure of the public right-of-way, further described as:

Cambridge Avenue, lying southerly of and adjacent to lot 548 and northerly of and adjacent to lot 549 of “Chester Heights Subdivision” as recorded in Liber 42, Page 49 of Plats, Wayne County Records.

PROVIDED, That the petitioner shall file with the Finance Department and/or City Engineering Division – DPW an indemnity agreement in the form approved by the Law Department. The agreement shall save and protect the City of Detroit from all claims, damages or expenses that may arise by reason of the issuance of permits and the faithful or unfaithful performance by the petitioner of the terms thereof. Further, the petitioner shall agree to pay all claims, damages or expenses that may arise out of the maintenance of the temporary public street closing; and

PROVIDED, the property owned by the petitioner and adjoining the temporary public street closing shall be subject to the proper zoning or regulated use (Board of Zoning Appeals Grant) over the total width and length of the street; and

PROVIDED, No building or other structures of any nature whatsoever shall be constructed on or over the public right of way. The petitioner shall observe the rules and regulations of the City Engineering Division – DPW. The City of Detroit retains all rights and interests in the temporary closed public right of way. The City and all utility companies retain their rights to service, inspect, maintain, repair, install, remove or replace utilities in the temporary closed public rights of way. Further, the petitioner shall comply with all specific conditions imposed to ensure unimpeded 24 hour-per-day access to the City and utility companies; and

PROVIDED, This resolution does not permit the storage of materials, displays of merchandise or signs within the temporary closed public rights of way. Further, the placement of materials, merchandise, or signs on any adjacent temporary area is prohibited; and

PROVIDED, that if there is still a need for access from any of the abutting property owners to said temporary closed street, access shall and must be maintained for those properties; and

PROVIDED, that at the expiration of the permit, all obstructions shall be removed at the petitioner’s expense. The public property shall be restored to a condition satisfactory to the City Engineering Division – DPW by the petitioner at the petitioner’s expense; and

PROVIDED, that this resolution is revocable at the will, whim, or caprice of the Detroit City Council without cause. The petitioner waives the right to claim damages or compensation for removal of encroachments. Further, the permittee acquires no implied or other privileges hereunder not expressly stated herein. If this permit is continued for the five (5) year period, the City Council may (Upon written request and if the circumstances justify accordingly) grant an extension thereto; and

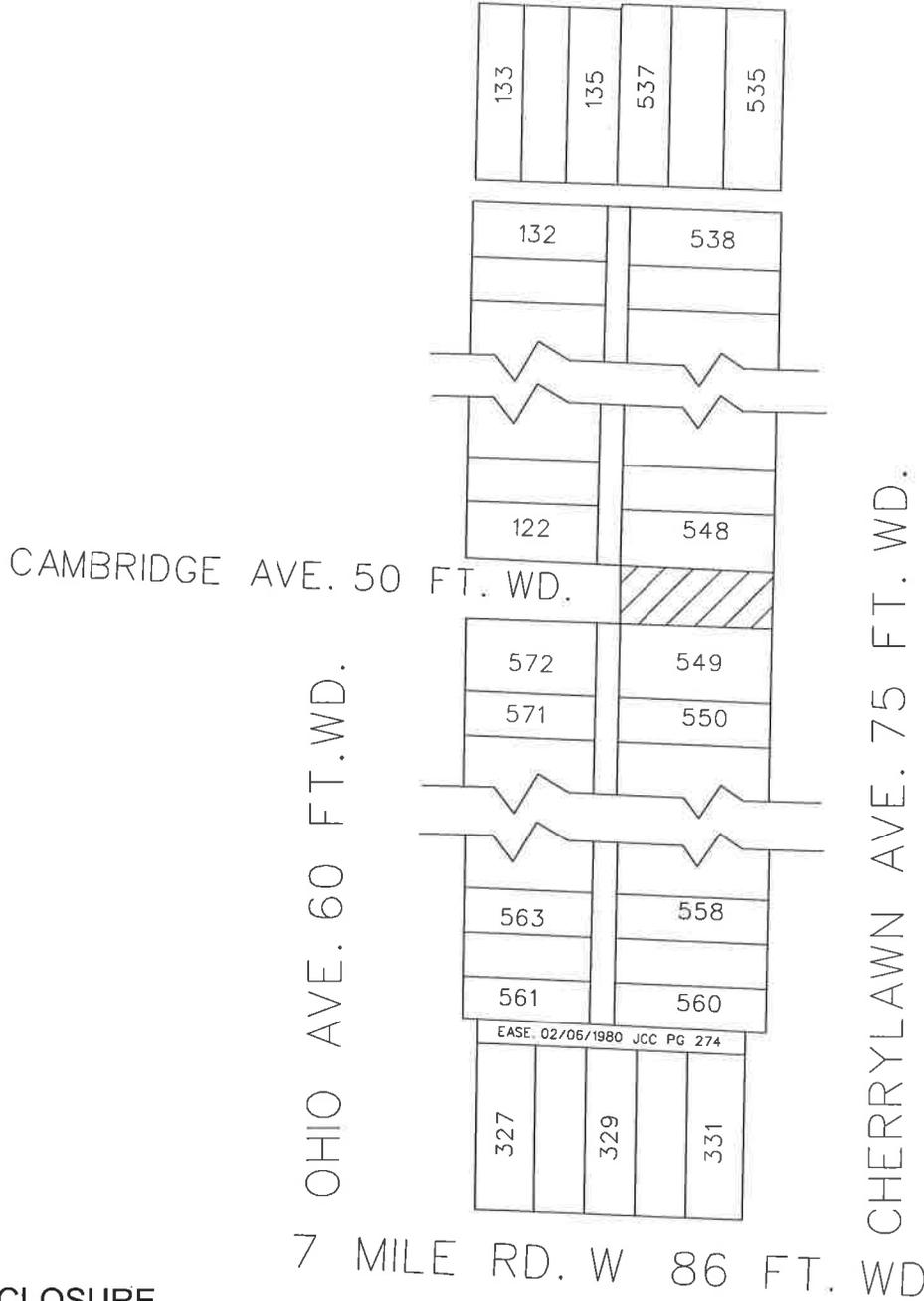
PROVIDED, that this permit shall not be assigned or transferred without the written approval of the Detroit City Council; and further

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

MAP-23-2



OUTER DR. W. 150 FT. WD



CAMBRIDGE AVE. 50 FT. WD.

OHIO AVE. 60 FT. WD.

CHERRYLAWN AVE. 75 FT. WD.

7 MILE RD. W 86 FT. WD



-CLOSURE

(FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

CARTO 88 E

B					
A					
DESCRIPTION	DRWN	CHKD	APPD	DATE	
REVISIONS					
DRAWN BY	MW	CHECKED	JD		
DATE	01-13-23	APPROVED	JD		

REQUEST TO MAINTAIN CLOSURE
OF PORTION OF CAMBRIDGE AVE
BETWEEN CHERRYLAWN AND
FIRST ALLEY WEST

CITY OF DETROIT	
CITY ENGINEERING DIVISION	
SURVEY BUREAU	
JOB NO.	23-2
DRWG. NO.	X 540

19176 Ohio St
Detroit, MI 48221

Dear Mr. Rhoades,

As a resident of District 2 and Bagley Community Council, I am respectfully asking Council Member Calloway to assist me and the neighbors on Ohio St to open Cambridge St which has been closed for over seven years. I called Council Member Calloway's office but was advised to speak to you about my concern. Since you were not in your office when I called, I am sending an email and faxing an attachment.

In 2015, the University of Detroit Jesuit School started renovating its school. (Science/Stem Center) Most of the construction work was done on Cherrylawn near Cambridge between Cherrylawn and Ohio. Large trucks were used to deliver/haul away building materials. The school got permission to close off part of Cambridge with two large concrete barriers. The construction trucks were parked in this closed off section. Construction was completed in 2016, yet the concrete barriers are still in place, thus blocking off thru traffic from Ohio and Cherrylawn causing an inconvenience to neighborhood drivers.

Last year I spoke to Kim Tandy (District 2 Manager) about getting the barriers removed. She investigated the matter and spoke with U of D, who replied that the school was in the process of making the barriers permanent. What was supposed to be for the duration of the construction project only, has become a hinderance to the neighbors who want to drive on Cambridge.

The original petition (# x540_2015) expired on June 1, 2020. U of D had an opportunity to ask for an extention at that time but they did not. They have extended the expiration date by two years because no one enforced the conditions of the petition from the city. Furthermore, the petition reads in part, "The request (from U of D) is being made in order to expand a parking lot and improve site security. The Traffic Engineering Division objected to the permanent closure, however, they have no objection for a temporary closure." I assume Traffic Engineering thought there was a need to grant the temporary closure due to the construction at the school. I'm not sure why they mentioned improving site security when the parking lot next to the closure, is completely fenced in with a full time security guard in the lot. One the other side of the enclosure across from the lot is a home owned by U of D. Why is there a need to have the barrier to protect a guarded parking lot and residential home? It's just unnecessary and alienates the rest of the community.

I hope that this email will be the spark that ignites the conversation and resolution of this issue. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,
Alvin Bell
(313-861-3917)

PETITION TO DETROIT CITY COUNCIL AND CITY OF DETROIT

We, the undersigned individuals signing this petition, reside on Ohio Street or Cherrylawn Street between Outer Drive and W.7 Mile Road and fully support extension of the closure of Cambridge Street between Ohio Street and Cherrylawn.

We understand that 100% of the property owners abutting Cambridge Street between Ohio Street and Cherrylawn have petitioned the City of Detroit to extend the temporary closure of Cherrylawn.

Further we believe that 100% of the property owners abutting Cambridge Street between Ohio Street and Cherrylawn support permanent closure of Cambridge Street between Cherrylawn and Ohio Street. It is our understanding that a petition to permanently vacate requires 2/3 of adjacent owners in residential areas, hence there should be consideration for permanent vacation.

We have read this petition and support permanent closure as the road was temporarily closed since 2015 and has benefited us as residents on both Ohio Street and Cherrylawn Street between 7 Mile and Outer Drive. At a minimum we support extension to reinstate the temporary closure that was passed by the Detroit City Council on June 16, 2015, Petition 540 Certified Resolution.

ADDRESS	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
19133 Ohio	Audrey Simmons	Audrey Simmons	3.3.23
19134 Ohio	Jasmine Curt	Jasmine Curt	3.3.23
19140 Ohio	Jamies Lake	Jamies Lake	3.3.23
19141 Ohio	Lynette Benson	Lynette Benson	3.1.23
19146 Ohio	DeAndre Robins	DeAndre Robins	3.3.23
19147 Ohio	Audra Jordan	Audra Jordan	3/1/23
19154 Ohio	Jerry Smith	Jerry Smith	3.3.23
19157 Ohio	IVANNA ROSS	Ivanna Ross	3.3.23
19162 Ohio	Carlynn Tillis	Carlynn Tillis	3.3.23
19167 Ohio	Audryl Cooper	Audryl Cooper	3.3.23
19170 Ohio	Claudia Hayes	Claudia Hayes	3.3.23

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ADDRESS	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
19175 Ohio	Kenyatta Lee	Kenyatta Lee	3/3/23
19176 Ohio			
19182 Ohio	Dugue Hight		Feb 28, 23
19183 Ohio	Christine Tyler	Christine Tyler	2-28-23
19190 Ohio	Montel Hubbs	Montel Hubbs	2-28-23
19191 Ohio	Avance Johnson	Avance J	2-28-23
19196 Ohio	Nicole Burris	Nicole R Burris	3/3/23
19197 Ohio	George Kelsey	George Kelsey	3/3/23
19205 Ohio	Albert Byrd	Albert Byrd	3/3/23
19208 Ohio	Laffy Williams	Laffy Williams	3/3/23
19212 Ohio	Tykeisha Campbell	Tykeisha Campbell	3/3/23

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ADDRESS	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
19215 Ohio	MARCIA WATERS	Marcia Waters	3-1-23
19303 Ohio	Theresa Elder	Th P. Elder	3-1-23
19300 Ohio	Melvin Thompson	Melvin Thompson	3-3-23
19310 Ohio	Jackie Clark	Jackie Clark	3-1-23
19313 Ohio	MARK WHITE	Mark White	3-1-23
19320 Ohio	Anthony Walker	Anthony Walker	3-1-23
19323 Ohio	Gerald STEVENS	Gerald Stevens	3-3-23
19332 Ohio	Rosa FRANK	Rosa Frank	3-7-23
19335 Ohio	Shawnda Robson	Shawnda Robson	3-7-23
19340 Ohio	Charmaine Cole	Charmaine Cole	3-7-23
19341 Ohio	ROBERT Finley	Robert Finley	3-7-23

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ADDRESS	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
19346 Ohio	Rosa McClain	Rosa McClain	3.1.23
19347 Ohio	Jane Beard	Jane Beard	3.1.23
19352 Ohio	Sherry McClain	Sherry McClain	3.1.23
19353 Ohio	Janece Davis	Janece Davis	3.4.23
19360 Ohio	Shella Davis	Shella Davis	3.4.23
19361 Ohio	Damon Smith	Damon Smith	3.4.23
19368 Ohio	Lance Hill	Lance Hill	3.4.23
19372 Ohio	Maybelle Temple	Maybelle Temple	3.4.23
19373 Ohio	Michael Anderson	Michael Anderson	3.3.23

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ADDRESS	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
19133 Cherrylawn	Jennifer Westbury	Jennifer Westbury	3-6-23
19141 Cherrylawn	Kenya Barnett	Kenya Barnett	3-6-23
19149 Cherrylawn	Thomas Collins	Thomas Collins	3-6-23
19155 Cherrylawn	EMILIA KING	Emilia King	3-6-23
19163 Cherrylawn	Greg Jones	Greg Jones	3-6-23
19171 Cherrylawn	Michael Toppin	Michael Toppin	3-6-23
19179 Cherrylawn	Drake Allen	Drake Allen	3-6-23
19303 Cherrylawn	Peter McAlpine	PETER EM'ALPINE	3-1-23
19311 Cherrylawn	Matthew Sims	Matthew Sims	3-1-23
19317 Cherrylawn	Jason Dennis	Jason Dennis	3-2-23
19331 Cherrylawn	Alexander Scott	Alexander Scott	3-3-23

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ADDRESS	NAME	SIGNATURE	DATE
19341 Cherrylawn			
19347 Cherrylawn			
19353 Cherrylawn			
19361 Cherrylawn			
19367 Cherrylawn			
19373 Cherrylawn			

NO
ANSW
NOV 13/15