

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Public Works

TO: Charles Soules, P.E., Director of Public Works

FROM: Zachary D. Baker, E.I.T., Project Engineer

CC: David P. Cronin, P.E., City Engineer
Mark Thiel, Assistant Public Works Director

Date: October 16, 2012

RE: Project PW1212 – 9th Street – Tennessee Street to Kentucky Street
Mill & Overlay, Pavement Marking, Traffic Signal Improvements

Project Description

The 9th Street & Tennessee Street project includes a 2" mill and overlay, pavement marking and curb repair on 9th Street between Tennessee and Kentucky Streets. New Traffic Signals will be installed at the 9th and Tennessee intersection. A new center turn lane and bike lanes will be added on 9th Street between Tennessee and Kentucky Streets. On-street parking (seven spaces) on the south side of 9th Street will need to be removed to allow for the new center turn lane and both eastbound and westbound bike lanes. A parking study was conducted to show the current utilization of the parking spaces impacted. The parking study is enclosed with this memo. The project will cause traffic interruptions and lane closures, but will maintain at least one thru lane in each direction at all times.

The existing lane cross-section on 9th Street consists of 4 lanes 12 feet wide (two thru lanes in each direction) and parking on the south side of 9th Street. There is parking on the north side of 9th Street, however, it is recessed off the roadway and is not considered part of the roadway cross-section. An aerial photograph of the roadway and parking stalls is included with the enclosed parking study. At the west end of the project limits the westbound leg of the intersection of 9th and Tennessee has a thru lane for westbound traffic and a thru-left turn lane for traffic turning south on Tennessee Street (a one-way street). At the east end of the project limits the eastbound leg of the intersection of 9th and Kentucky has a thru lane and a thru-left turn lane for traffic turning north on Kentucky Street (a one-way street).

To make room for the new 10 foot center turn lane and 5 foot bike lanes, on-street parking on the south side of 9th Street will need to be removed and all lane widths will be narrowed by two feet (from 12 feet to 10 feet). The center turn lane will improve traffic flow through the corridor as no thru lanes will be delayed from vehicles making left turns. The bike lanes were recommended by the bicycle advisory committee and

approved at their October 11, 2011 meeting. This additional one block of bike lanes will extend the existing bike lanes to the west.

South Side On Street Parking

To keep on street parking available on the south side of 9th Street through the corridor an alternate lane configuration would be needed. With the addition of a center left turn lane along with south side parking remaining in place, traffic lanes would be shifted to the north. This shift is too great to safely pass cars through the intersections of 9th and Tennessee and 9th and Kentucky. To properly shift westbound traffic through the intersection at least one parking stall on the north side of 9th Street east of Kentucky Street would have to be removed so an appropriate shifting taper can begin before vehicles reach the intersection. Also, additional lane markings would need to be added west of the Tennessee Street intersection to safely shift cars through that intersection. No additional work would need to be done for eastbound traffic on 9th Street as those lanes will not have a significant shifting movement. Plan Sheets are attached showing the original proposed project with south side parking being removed, as well as, the option for keeping south side parking.

Parking Study

A Parking Occupancy Survey was taken every hour on the hour between 8am – 5pm on weekdays from September 19th to 25th, 2012 for all 27 on-street parking spaces on 9th Street between Vermont St. and Tennessee St. as well as the three spaces on the west side of Kentucky St. just south of 9th St. The survey found that the 27 parking spaces in this corridor had an overall occupancy of just 3.73%. In the seven spaces proposed to be removed; only one vehicle was counted during the survey. The enclosed aerial photograph shows the percentage of occupancy next to each parking space with a number shown in 'red'. Spaces without a number had 0% occupancy during the length of the survey. As shown in the aerial, the majority of parking spaces used are closer to the downtown area between Vermont and Kentucky Street which is out of the project limits.

Adjacent Property Owners

There are two adjacent property owners directly impacted by the removal of on street parking. Todd Thompson owner of building at 333 W 9th and Northstar Venture Group owner of building at 901 Kentucky St. Mr. Thompson is opposed to the removal of on street parking. The owners/tenants at 901 Kentucky have no significant concerns about the removal of parking. However, they do have concerns about the poor condition of the alley between Tennessee and Kentucky that serves as an access to the parking lot south of their building. City staff agrees with the poor condition and will recommend a restoration of the alley as a 2013 internal street maintenance project.

Other area property owners were notified including Douglas County Bank, US Bank and 9th Street Missionary Baptist Church, all of which had no concerns about the project. All adjacent property owners have been informed of the October 23, 2012 City Council meeting to execute the agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation for this project.

Project Funding

The estimated project cost is \$155,000. The project is being funded with Federal-aid funds that cover ninety percent (90%) of the participating construction and construction engineering costs (inspection) with a project cap of \$175,000. The remaining ten percent (10%) and all other costs associated with the project are funded by the city. The project cost does not include the cost of engineering design or construction engineering services. Public Works staff is designing the project in-house and will be providing construction inspection. No property acquisition is required.

Project Schedule

Completion of plans: November 2012

Advertise and bidding: December 2012

Anticipated Start Date: Spring 2013

Project Completion Date: August 16, 2013.

City staff is currently working on final design of the project. Engineering Design and construction plans are near completion. Plans are expected to be complete by November 2012 with a letting date in December 2012. Construction will begin in Spring 2013.

Action Request

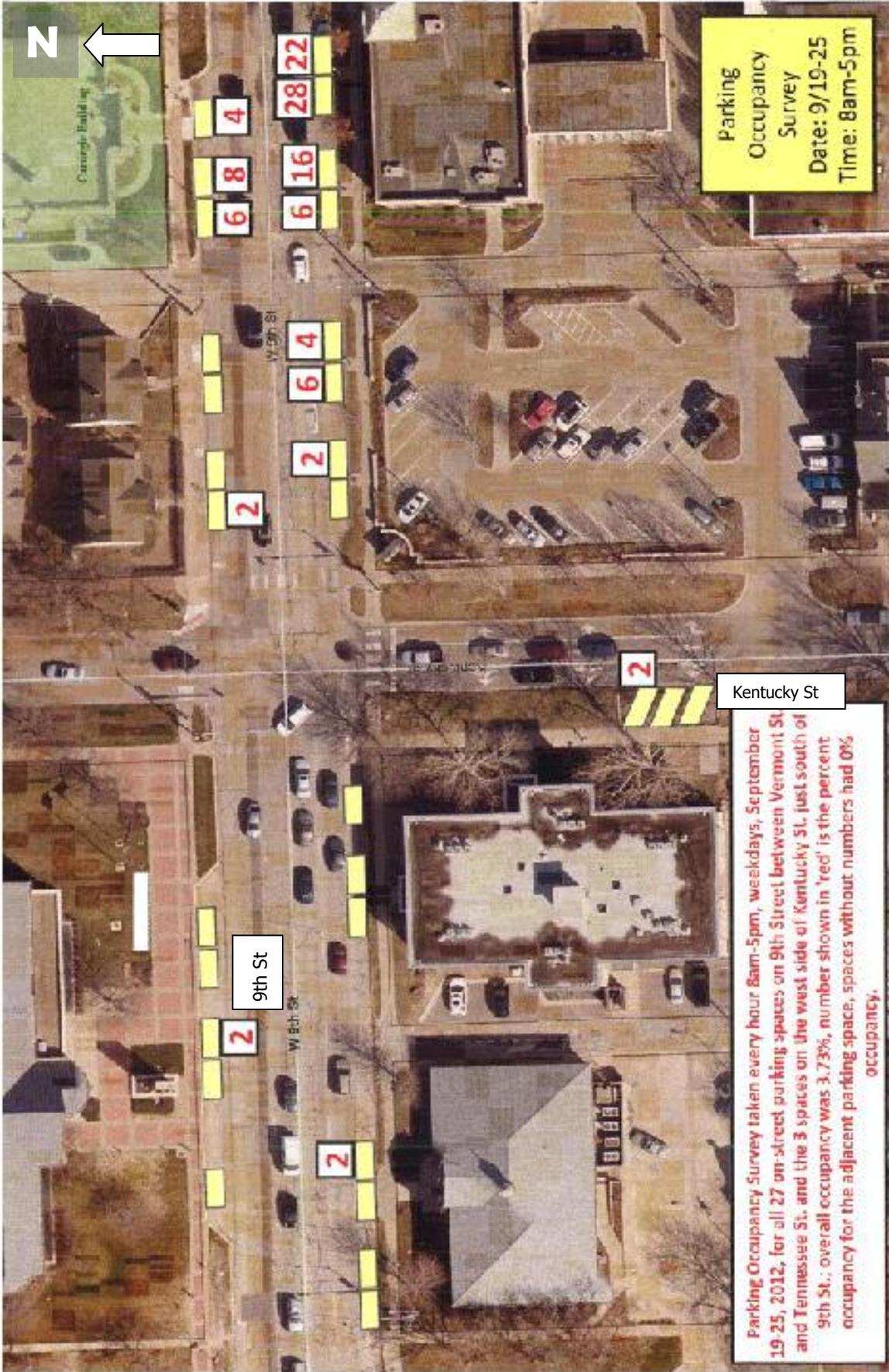
1. Approve Ordinance 8815 to remove street parking on south side of 9th Street between Tennessee Street and Kentucky Street.
2. Authorize the Mayor to sign the City/State Agreement for this project.

Attachments:

Parking Study

Ordinance

Plan Sheets



Carver Building

9th St

Kentucky St

Tennessee St