



# City of Lawrence

## PUBLIC WORKS

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### CITY COMMISSION

**MAYOR**  
ROBERT J. SCHUMM

**COMMISSIONERS**  
MICHAEL DEVER  
HUGH CARTER  
MIKE AMYX  
ARON E. CROMWELL

### **NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2012 AT 6:35 P.M., TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING A BENEFIT DISTRICT TO ADD AN ADDITIONAL LEVEL TO THE PARKING GARAGE BEING CONSTRUCTED AT 707 VERMONT STREET.**

November 27, 2012

Dear Property Owner:

In November 2010, voters approved an \$18-million, 20-year bond issue to renovate and expand Lawrence Public Library. This bond issue also included plans to add a 250-space parking structure that doubles the number of spaces for the Library, Outdoor Aquatic Center, Senior Center and general parking availability in downtown Lawrence. Now that construction for the parking garage is nearing, the City of Lawrence is proposing to add an additional level, approximately 70 spaces, to the parking garage to maximize parking spaces available in downtown and to take advantage of efficiencies that can be achieved now while construction is occurring on this project. The cost of this additional level will be paid through a special assessment benefit district which includes all properties within the Central Business District.

On September 18<sup>th</sup> and September 20<sup>th</sup> staff held two public meetings at 7:30 am at the Lawrence Arts Center.

On September 25, 2012 the City Commission held a public hearing on the advisability of adding an additional level (approximately 70 spaces) to the Library Parking Garage. The City Commission directed staff to await the actual bid proposal and look at the option of exempting churches/non-profit organizations, residential property, and those areas used for parking.

On October 30, 2012 bids were received for the Garage. The alternate bid for the additional level will cost \$834,806.00. Attached is a spreadsheet taking into account the bid and City Commission direction included.

The City owns 959,510 square feet (bold) or 34.59% of the benefit district area. The exempted areas described above total 486,308 square feet (red) or 17.53% of the benefit district area.

Kansas Statutes require that all property benefiting from the proposed improvements be included within the benefit district. However, to follow the Commission's direction the City is proposing to enter into agreements to pay the assessments for those properties that the Commission determines should be exempted.

The attached spreadsheet would have the City paying for the property owned by the City \$288,725.00 (bold) plus the exempted areas \$146,334.33 (red) for a total of \$435,059.00 or 52% of the cost of the project

Resolution 6995 provides that the Improvements shall not be commenced if, within 20 days after publication of this resolution, written protest signed by both 51% or more of the resident owners of record of property within the improvement District and the owners of record of more than half of the total area of said district are filed with the City Clerk

**The City Commission will consider adopting a resolution setting out their findings and ordering the construction of an additional parking level on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 at 6:35 p.m. in the City Commission Room, located in City Hall, 6 E. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Please feel free to call if you have any questions (785) 832-3123.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles F. Soules, P.E.  
Director of Public Works



We are committed to providing excellent city services that enhance the quality of life for the Lawrence Community

CFS/ch

Attachments: Map