December 30, 2009

TO:

Board of Mayor and Aldermen

From:

Eric Stuckey, City Administrator

Subject:

Parking Pass Program for Office space for a portion of downtown

Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide information to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) to consider a limited parking pass program for office space for a portion of downtown.

Background

Recently, Mayor Schroer was approached by some downtown property owners who lease office space with concerns regarding the need for guests of these businesses needing to park beyond the four hour limit in place at the Fifth Avenue surface parking lot. From this concern the concept of a limited parking pass program for office spaces was developed. The parking pass program would provide two guest parking passes (mirror hang tags) per each office space located in the area on the north side of Main Street from 409 Main Street (Red Pony restaurant) west to Fifth Avenue North. Other downtown visitors, residents and workers will continue to be able to use existing parking options including the two parking deck (Fourth Avenue and Second Avenue), surface lots and on-street parking.

The program is designed to address a specific concern of office space in this portion of downtown whose most convenient parking does not have a long term option available. Property owners have fielded complaints from tenants and visitors regarding this perceived inconvenience. There are some limitations to the proposed program including: property owners would be "on their honor" that passes were being used by guests and not tenants, this program is only being provided only to office users and not other properties in this area or elsewhere in downtown.

Financial Impact

There would be a minimal cost for program implementation and administration. Parking Passes would need to be printed and monitored. Should the Board be interested in implementing such a program, more specific costs for implementation could be developed.

Options

The Board may adopt, modify and decline the proposed parking program.

Recommendations

Direction from the Board is sought in terms of developing a program of this nature for a limited area of downtown for office users.

