

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO INSTALL TEMPORARY PARKLET AND TO WAIVE PARKING METER FEES

BACKGROUND:

The Student Society of Landscape Architects (SSLA) at Iowa State University is requesting suspension of parking regulations and enforcement in one metered space on Chamberlain Street to install a “parklet” to be on display from April 24 through August 30, 2014. **A parklet is a parking space that has been converted to a "park" to provide enhanced amenities and/or green space for people in business districts where sidewalk space is limited like Campustown and Downtown Ames.** The students intend to install the parklet that was demonstrated in April 2013 the same space (parking space 50 next to Fire Station 2) on Chamberlain Street. **The maximum possible loss of revenue to the Parking Fund from the waiver of parking meter fees is \$245.25.**

The students have met with Public Works staff to ensure compliance with necessary regulations pertaining to the ADA, stormwater runoff and any other considerations to provide safety in the area during the demonstration. The plans have been reviewed by the Fire Department's Inspections Division to ensure that all other life safety codes are met with the project. City staff recommends that, if approved, the City Council should retain the right to order the parklet’s removal should it become a hazard to the public.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council can approve the placement of the parklet and the suspension of parking regulations and enforcement for parking space 50 on Chamberlain Street from April 24 through August 30, 2014. The City Council could order the parklet’s removal if it was deemed a hazard to the public.
2. The City Council can approve placement of the parklet from April 24 through August 30, 2014, but require reimbursement for the lost parking revenue.
3. The City Council can consider the placement of a parklet at a different location and/or on different dates.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The SSLA is excited to again demonstrate this concept in urban landscape design to the community of Ames and Iowa State University. This request offers a unique opportunity to preview this new concept for an extended period of time over the spring and summer.

As long as the City reserves the right to have the parklet removed if deemed necessary, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby suspending parking regulations and enforcement for parking space 50 on Chamberlain Street from April 24 through August 30, 2014.

April 1, 2014

Mayor and City Council
City of Ames
515 Clark Ave
Ames, IA 50010

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council:

The Student Society of Landscape Architects (SSLA) at Iowa State University proposes to build and install a parklet (or small, public, gathering space) on top of a single, metered parking space. We have selected the first space on Chamberlain St., between Welch Ave. and Stanton St., on the south side of Fire Station No. 2 (132 Welch Avenue). The installation would be in place from Thursday, April 24, 2014 through Saturday, August 30, 2014. At this time, the Student Society of Landscape Architects respectfully requests that the City Council consider waiving parking meter fees and enforcement during the time that the parklet is in place.

We ask that the Council refer this request to City staff for placement on the April 8 City Council agenda.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Gulick, Vice-President
Student Society of Landscape Architects



campustown
action
association

Honorable Mayor Campbell and City Council
Ames City Hall
515 Clark Avenue
Ames, IA 50010

March 31, 2014

RE: SSLA Parklet in Campustown

Dear Honorable Mayor Campbell and City Council,

Campustown Action Association has been asked by the Iowa State University Student Society of Landscape Architects (SSLA) to support the re-installation of the parklet they created for the district in the spring of 2013. CAA is very much in support of unique ways of introducing outdoor seating to our district, including this proposed parklet. The temporary location of the parklet worked very well last spring and we support it's installation on Chamberlain Street next to Fire Station #2 in April 2014 as well.

While we would love to have the parklet installed for the entire summer, we understand the financial constraints that places on the City of Ames in lost revenue. We are always looking for unique ways to improve the customer experience in Campustown, which we feel additional outdoor seating provides. If the City Council feels that waiving the meter fees for the entire summer is not possible, we offer to fund raise with our members to cover the cost of the lost meter fees, approximately \$245.25. Campustown Action Association is excited to have the parklet back in our district as we feel the parklet will add to the overall environment in Campustown and provide a place for the Ames public to enjoy all summer.

Thank you for your continued support of Campustown and the Campustown Action Association.

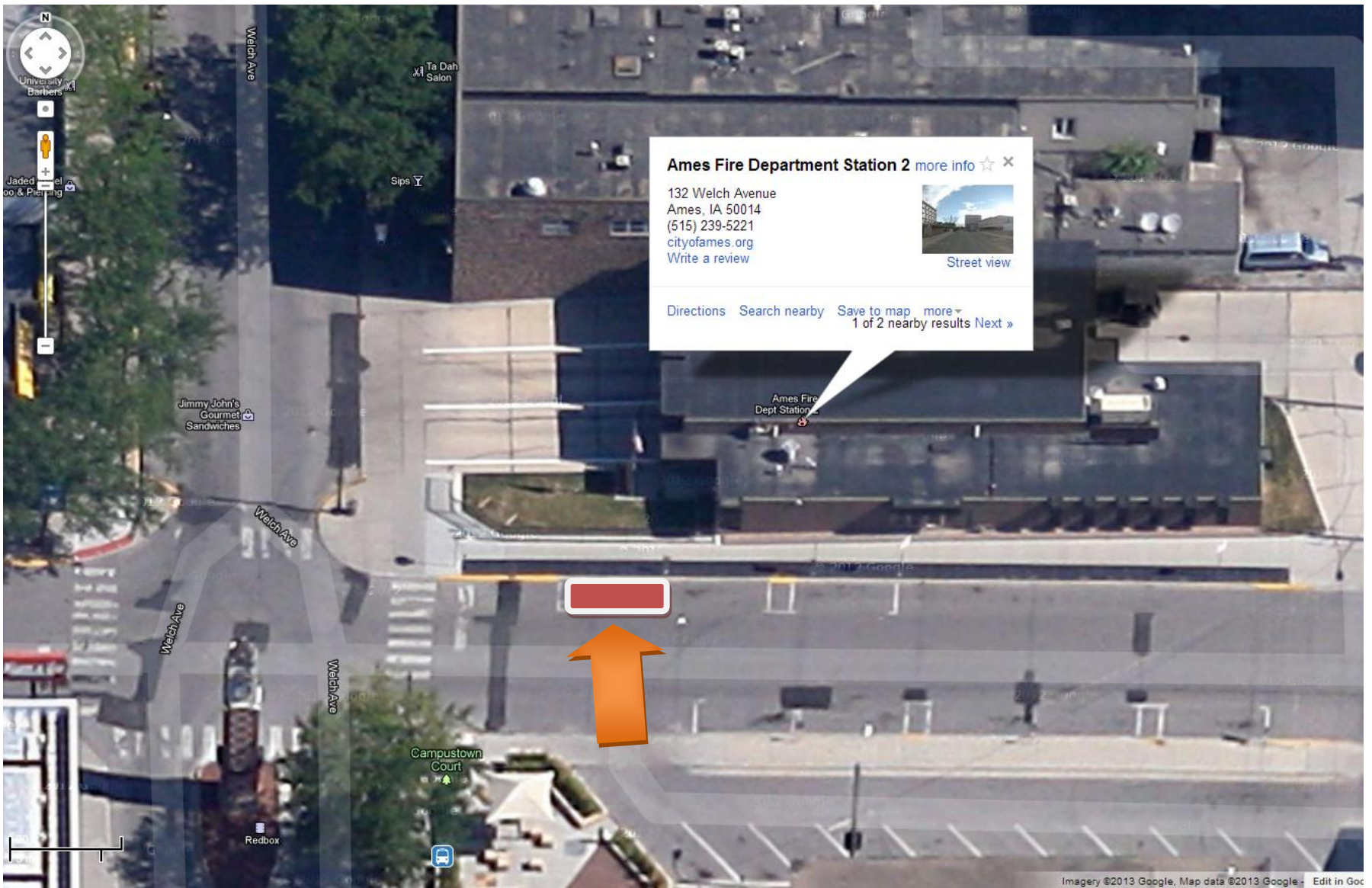
Sincerely,

Anne Taylor

CAA Board President
Dogtown University

Kim Hanna

CAA Director



Aerial Photograph Courtesy of Google Maps



Streetview Courtesy of Google Maps



