

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT:** PARKING WAIVER FOR ALLIANT ENERGY (CARROLL AVENUE)

**BACKGROUND:**

On Thursday, April 16, 2015 staff was approached by Alliant Energy regarding an upcoming project to install a new eight inch gas main from 5<sup>th</sup> Street to 9<sup>th</sup> Street along Carroll Avenue. Work is anticipated to begin the week of April 20<sup>th</sup> and continue for approximately two weeks. The project will involve open-cut installation of the gas main that will require blocking the parking areas on one side of Carroll Avenue. There will also be short partial closures of the intersection of Carroll Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Because this utility project is not being administered by the City of Ames, there are two Municipal Code parking sections that require waiver by the City Council. Under Section 18.24(1) the Code authorizes the City Manager to waive parking regulations for events lasting up to a maximum of 72 hours, which is not long enough for this particular project to be completed. Therefore, the first waiver will be of Section 18.31(45) "Carroll Avenue" to allow parking of work vehicles and equipment along the west side of the street. Second, a waiver of Section 18.9 "Forty-Eight Hour Parking" will also be needed because of the two week duration of the project. The 48-hour parking prohibition is intended to prevent using public right of way as vehicle storage.

Even though this work is not directly related to a capital project for the City, it is in part related to Alliant's provision of natural gas to the Ames Municipal Power Plant. This new gas main is part of the larger system improvements currently being implemented by Alliant Energy in the Ames area. Alliant believes this project will be completed by May 5.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1 A) Approve the request by Alliant Energy to temporarily waive Municipal Code Sections 18.31(45) "Carroll Avenue" and Section 18.9 "Forty-Eight Hour Parking" along Carroll Avenue from 5th Street to 9th Street beginning April 21, 2015 through May 5, 2015.  
  
B) Delegate to City staff the ability to administratively extend the duration of these waivers for any unforeseen project delays.
2. Direct staff to work with Alliant Energy to develop alternatives.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

By approving this waiver, the City will be able to help Alliant Energy promote a safe and efficient installation of the proposed gas main improvements. Staff and Alliant Energy are utilizing door hangers to notify the affected neighbors.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.

# Alliant Energy Workzone Area

