

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT:   INSTALLATION OF DECORATIVE SECURITY FENCING AT  
FIRE STATION 2**

**BACKGROUND:**

Within the 2013/14 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and budget, the City Council approved a total of \$53,270 for small Fire Services projects involving all three fire stations. One of those projects involved \$11,000 to eliminate a low bulkhead safety concern at Fire Station #2 adjacent to the Chamberlain Street sidewalk while maintaining an aesthetically pleasing look. The intended use of these funds was to add wrought iron fencing along the entire length of the south side of the building. After some investigation, it was determined that more problems would develop by adding fencing in this location than would be eliminated.

**Over the last several years, Fire Services staff has identified many concerning instances where personal vehicles and departmental property were at risk by allowing the public to “cut through” this property on the far east side of the parking lot. The open access to the vehicle parking area on the rear drive of the station may have been a contributing factor in the vandalization of several personally owned vehicles, as well as stolen property.**

**Staff has identified an opportunity to utilize the unused bulkhead funding to provide a similarly priced solution to this second problem. This would involve adding six foot, wrought iron fencing around the rear perimeter of Fire Station #2, encompassing the parking area. A rolling eight foot wide and six foot high wrought iron gate would be utilized to allow vehicles access, but could be kept closed to prevent undesirable foot traffic around the parking area. This fencing would match the existing fencing on the west side of the property to allow for an aesthetically pleasing look.**

The Planning and Housing Department was consulted to ensure code compliance, the Campustown Action Association was contacted to obtain their approval, the business to the north was notified of this intention, and impacted alcohol distributors who use the cut through early in the morning were given an opportunity to voice any displeasure with the project (none were received).

Staff is requesting Council authorization to reallocate up to \$14,000 of the \$53,270 budgeted for this CIP project to a parking lot encompassing fence along the rear (east side) perimeter of the property, including a rolling gate on the south side.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the reallocation of CIP funds for a parking lot-encompassing fence and rolling gate at Fire Station 2.
2. Do not approve the reallocation of CIP funds for this fencing.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The area of Campustown immediately surrounding Fire Station #2 hosts a great deal of nighttime activity. There is a large amount of foot traffic in the area with many late night drinking establishments. The back drive of Fire Station #2 currently provides little protection from illegal behavior. This project will go far to increase the level of security provided for City and employee property.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, thereby approving the reallocation of CIP project funds for a parking lot-encompassing fence and rolling gate at Fire Station 2.