Department Source: Public Works

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 2, 2017

Re: Setting a Public Hearing for the Purchase and Installation of a Parking Facility Gate Arm System

Executive Summary

Setting a public hearing for October 16, 2017 for the purchase and installation of a gate arm system for City parking facilities.

Discussion

On April 17, 2017, Council authorized an appropriation of funds from the Parking Utility retained earnings account for the purchase of a gate arm system to be installed in all City parking facilities as identified in the Parking Utility’s capital improvement program. A gate arm system will provide the following benefits:

* More efficient enforcement and improved security.
* Operational savings in reduced payroll by eliminating part-time attendants needed daily at the Plaza garage, and at the Short Street garage during special events.
* Increased revenue as entrance and egress lanes for all garages will be controlled and contingent upon payment. The vendor projects a minimum of 10% revenue increase for hourly spaces in the garages once the system is installed.
* A consistent, standardized system of lane control and payment at all garages which should dramatically improve customer service.
* Detailed occupancy and inventory reports for all garages.

Although staff had originally planned to purchase and install a gate arm system in just one or two parking garages each year over the next four years, it was determined that a substantial cost savings would be realized if the system was purchased and installed in all six parking garages at one time. The vendor and local electrician estimate a 3% increase in equipment costs each year, and a $2,500 mobilization fee would be charged each time the vendor traveled to Columbia to install the system in a parking facility, which could potentially cost $15,000 ($2,500 x 6 garages). Staff expects installation of the gate arms by April 1, 2018.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The total cost for the purchase and installation of a gate arm system for all six parking garages is $930,077.62. Council authorized the appropriation of $886,193 from Parking Utility retained earnings account to the project account in April of this year.

Long-Term Impact: The scope of work for this project includes a comprehensive five (5) year warranty for parts, labor, software upgrades and maintenance; and four (4) preventative maintenance visits per year. While the actual impact is unknown, it is projected that hourly space revenue in the garages will increase by a minimum of 10%.

Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/city-manager/)

Primary Impact: Public Safety, Secondary Impact: Operational Excellence, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/community_development/comprehensive_plan/documents/ColumbiaImagined-FINAL.pdf)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

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| --- | --- |
| Date | Action |
| 04/17/2017 | B103-17-Appropriating funds from the Parking Utility Retained Earnings account for the purchase and installation of a gate arm system in all City parking facilities.  |

Suggested Council Action

Adopt the resolution setting a public hearing for October 16, 2017 for the purchase and installation of a gate arm system for City parking facilities.