

Memorandum

To: DDA Capital Improvements Committee

From: Amber Miller, Capital Projects and Planning Manager, AICP

Date: December 16, 2022

Re: Bikeway Sweeper Equipment Grant

Attached for your review and approval is a resolution to approve a grant to the City of Ann Arbor to help purchase bikeway sweeper equipment.

Background:

In 2019, the DDA and City began installing Ann Arbor's Downtown Bikeway loop with a two-way separated bike lane on William Street. Today we have a total of six Bikeway miles on four downtown streets. With all DDA projects, particularly those that introduce new treatments, we monitor and adjust after installation. Based on observation and feedback, one Bikeway issue remains persistent –illegal parking. Despite added loading zones and delineators, some drivers prioritize convenience over safety and continue to illegally park in the Downtown Bikeway.



In May, 2022, the DDA and City installed delineators at the beginning and end of key Downtown Bikeway access locations. These yellow posts accommodate standard street sweepers but deter the accidental offender. Most bikeway blocks have loading zones, service alleys, and/or driveways to appropriately accommodate delivery vehicles.

Bikeway Sweeper Equipment

To exclude the more egregious offenders (e.g., FedEx and Amazon delivery drivers), DDA staff would like to install centerline delineators throughout the Downtown Bikeway. This would narrow the effective width of the Bikeway so that delivery drivers can no longer park in them without running over a post. This change would also prevent the City's existing street sweepers from accessing the Bikeways for maintenance and necessitate the need for new, smaller street sweeper equipment.

The Ann Arbor Public Works Department collaborated to test new Bikeway sweepers; the only suitable electric equipment option totals \$270,000. The DDA has installed all separated bike lanes to date, but the City Transportation Department has plans to expand the network outside

of the downtown. As a result, staff recommend a 50/50 split, for a total of \$135,000 per funding partner. The City of Ann Arbor will be responsible for equipment repair and replacement moving forward.

Next Steps

DDA staff recommend a \$135,000 grant to the City of Ann Arbor for the purchase of new bikeway sweeper equipment. Approval at the January Board Meeting enables subsequent City Council approval, followed by equipment delivery in fall 2023 (FY 2024).

In the interim, DDA, Transportation, Public Works, and the Police Department will continue collaboration to address illegal Bikeway parking. In addition to added delineators, this includes education through social media and events and parking enforcement. The AAPD recently authorized overtime hours and created a new ticket tracking number to expressly support this issue.

Action Recommended:

DDA staff recommend approving a \$135,000 grant to the City of Ann Arbor to help purchase smaller bikeway sweeper equipment.

**RESOLUTION TO GRANT \$135,000 TO THE CITY OF ANN ARBOR FOR BIKEWAY SWEEPER
EQUIPMENT**

Whereas, The DDA's Development Plan highlights infrastructure, identity, transportation, housing, and sustainability as overarching Principles;

Whereas, To facilitate a solution to illegal parking in the Downtown Bikeway, the DDA has received a request for funding from the City of Ann Arbor towards bikeway sweeper equipment;

Whereas, The City has obtained quotes for bikeway sweeper equipment totaling \$270,000 which is planned to be delivered by Fall of 2023;

Whereas, Staff recommend sharing costs equally at \$135,000 per funding partner and the DDA's Capital Improvement Committee supports this recommendation;

Whereas, The DDA's General/TIF Fund FY24 Budget includes capacity for the requested \$135,000 grant;

RESOLVED, The DDA Board approves The Resolution to Grant up to \$135,000 to the City of Ann Arbor for bikeway sweeper equipment, to be paid from its General/TIF Fund.

A vote on the resolution showed:

Ayes: Brummer, Dohoney, Kinley, Massey, McKinnon, Michelin, Nichols, Vaughn

Nays: None

Absent: Bartelme, Dieck, Letaw

The resolution was approved.

February 1, 2023