

MEMO

TO: DDA Board

FROM: Amber Miller, DDA Capital Projects and Planning Manager

DATE: 3.22.24

REGARDING: Public Restroom Pilot Cost Share with the City of Ann Arbor

DDA staff recommend approval of a cost share with the City of Ann Arbor for a one-year public restroom pilot program starting in June 2024. The Ann Arbor City Council approved a contract with Throne Labs in October 2023 and the cost share is now ready for your approval.

### **Background**

Following downtown stakeholder sessions in summer 2022, the City Administrators Office convened an internal team to address the desire for more public restrooms downtown. This created a partnership opportunity for the DDA and City of Ann Arbor to pilot public restrooms prior to selecting permanent locations and constructing infrastructure. Through this work, the Throne was selected as the pilot restroom option. The Throne was the only option that provided an accessible, turn-key public restroom with corresponding service.

Additional background information can be found at <https://www.a2dda.org/people-friendly-streets/projects/public-restroom-pilot/>.

### **Locations + Pilot Period**

To determine downtown locations, DDA staff facilitated a work group consisting of representatives from key City departments, Downtown Business Associations, Shelter Association of Washtenaw County, Commission on Disability Issues, and the Ann Arbor District Library. This group established goals for the pilot project and informed the number of restroom units and locations downtown:

- Unit 1:
  - One year pilot placement on the 100 block of East Washington, just east of Main Street
- Unit 2:
  - Six-month pilot placement on the 200 block of North 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, just south of Catherine Street.
  - Six-month pilot placement on the 300 block of Maynard Street, near the Maynard Parking Structure.

### **Cost**

As a result of the work group effort, DDA staff recommend funding two units and corresponding service and relocation fees, not to exceed \$169,000. This will allow us to further explore permanent public restrooms as part of our capital project work.

Estimated DDA Cost			
Annual Infrastructure Fee/Unit	Number of Units		Total
\$24,000	2		\$48,000
Variable Monthly Usage-based Cost	Number of Units	Number of Months	Total
\$1,000 - \$5,000	2	12	\$24,000 - \$120,000
Off-site Relocation Cost*	Number of Units		Total
\$700	1		\$700
<b>Total Estimated DDA Cost</b>			<b>\$72,700 - \$168,700</b>

\* One DDA District relocation is planned. In order to test the Throne in three locations downtown, one unit is planned to be moved from the location on Fourth Avenue to the location on Maynard Street.

**Action Recommended:** DDA staff recommend approval of the attached resolution – a Cost Share with the City of Ann Arbor for a public restroom pilot, not to exceed \$169,000. Dollars are available in the FY 24 and 25 budget.