

**Department of Public Works**

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John C. Rooney, P.E.  
Commissioner of Public Works/City Engineer

Thomas M. Eeg, P.E.  
Asst. Comm. of Public Works/Operations

To: Ald. Natalia Taft, Chair  
Finance & Personnel Committee

From: John Rooney  
Commissioner of Public Works

Date: February 12, 2021

Dear Ald. Taft,

In December 2020, I came before this Committee to obtain funding to cover snow plowing of City Parking Lots and Parking Ramps from a private firm. The request from December was based on three issues regarding labor shortages due to; frozen positions that had not been filled, large number of unanticipated retirements due to employee handbook changes, and the possibility of a COVID-19 outbreak in field operations.

At that time, we had estimated a need for \$150,000 in funds to cover this winter season based on historical data from past seasonal operations, but with an unknown determination of the amount of snow we would receive, the following action was taken on this item at that time:

1. To authorize the Finance Director to transfer funding in the amount of \$75,000 from the Contingency Fund to the aforementioned accounts as needed. If additional funding is needed later in 2021, the Commissioner of Public works will return to this committee to request authorization for additional allocations.
2. To authorize and direct the Purchasing Agent to negotiate and hire the contractors needed to remove snow from City owned off street facilities if necessary.

With the major snowfalls we had already, we have spent \$53,574 to date, leaving a balance of \$21,426. I would estimate that we will need an additional \$56,000 to get us through this winter season. Based on the balance in place, I would request that an additional \$35,000 be appropriated as follows:

Parking System – Contracted Services	60383 – 52200	\$17,500
DPW Street Maintenance – Contracted Services	14010 – 52200	\$ 5,000
Parks Department – Contracted Services	15003 – 52200	\$12,500
Total:		\$35,000

Thank you,

John C. Rooney, P.E.  
Commissioner of Public Works