

Attachment 4 –DRAFT operation and details of the Pilot Project for the Temporary Closure Unit Block of King Street and the Northern Portion of the Strand.

Duration: the pilot project is intended to last for approximately three months (Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend). The Traffic and Parking Board has recommended closure be allowed between April 1 and November 20 to coincide with the King Street Outdoor Dining regulations. This larger timeframe allows staff flexibility to close early if necessary for setting up (striping, signage, etc.), and to extend the pilot if it proves successful.

Traffic: The unit block would be closed to all traffic full time. Fire, EMS, APD, and service vehicles would maintain access. Moveable barriers, like those on the 100 block of King Street would be used to block traffic but allow necessary service vehicles. Adequate signage, especially at the intersection of Prince Street and the Strand, will be posted to alert drivers that there would be not through traffic allowed.

Parking: There are currently two metered parking spaces on King Street that are proposed to be temporarily removed. In addition, staff is proposing to temporarily eliminate two pull-in metered parking spaces along the Strand that currently serve the Old Town Waterfront Park to allow space for vehicle turnaround. This will also require moving the one handicap parking space to one of the other spaces further south. There are currently four bicycle racks that are proposed to be replaced with a moveable bicycle rack, ideally close to Union Street.

Fire: Staff recommends maintaining the existing 22-foot Emergency Vehicle Easement down the center of the street for pedestrians only and adding 5-foot wide pedestrian paths along both sidewalks. In addition, there will be a 15-foot clearance on each side of the fire hydrant.

Stormwater services: Because this area floods more often and because of the stormwater infrastructure underneath King Street, there will be nothing semi-permanent (such as tables and chairs) allowed over manholes or close to storm drains.

Outdoor Dining: The unrestricted space along King Street would be available to businesses through a permitting process for outdoor dining.

Deliveries and loading/unloading: The Traffic and Parking Board, at its February 28th meeting, approved replacing the parking along the 100 blocks of North and South Union Street with loading zones for deliveries and drop off/pick up zones.

Monitoring and Evaluation: During the closure, the advisory group will meet regularly to address any concerns that arise. The Director of Transportation and Environmental Services also has the authority to temporarily implement traffic controls, such as truck restrictions, per section 10-2-24. After the pilot, staff will gather input, similar to the process of the 100 block closure, including online feedback, and input from businesses and residents. If the closure proves unsuccessful, the street can be opened up at any point.

Motorcoach parking: There is currently motorcoach parking allowed along the unit block of King Street that would be suspended. Staff would direct motorcoach drivers to park along Market Square. This also occurred during the construction of the Waterfront Park, and staff anticipates no issues. In addition, these spaces have become less useful with the closure of the 100 block.