

Right-of-Way and Lane Closure Permit Fees

Transportation and
Infrastructure Committee
February 18, 2020

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City of Dallas



Presentation Overview

- Purpose
- Lane and Sidewalk Closure Permits and Right-of-Way Citations
 - Background/History
 - Operational Impacts
 - Staff Recommendations
 - Next Steps

Purpose

- Provide background and history of Lane and Sidewalk Closure Permits and Right-of-Way (ROW) Citations
- Discuss operational impacts and staff recommendations of Lane/Sidewalk Closure Permits Fees and ROW Citations
- Seek Committee input on next steps of implementation

Lane and Sidewalk Closure Permits

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Background/History

- Lane and Sidewalk Closure Permits reviewed and issued by Public Works (PBW) when traffic lane or sidewalk closures are needed for construction
- Established October 1, 2014 (Ord. No. 26029)
- Lane and Sidewalk Closures Fee Structure
 - \$0.006 per square foot per day of street or sidewalk closed (or a minimum of \$145 for the permit)

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Background/History

- Comparative Analysis

ROW & Lane Closure Permit Fees			
City	Application Fee	Sidewalk Cost	Traffic Lane/Alley Cost
Dallas	None	\$0.006 sq. ft./day	\$0.006 sq. ft./day
Austin	\$45 short term projects \$145 long term projects	\$0.01-\$0.14 sq. ft./day	\$0.10-\$0.42 sq. ft./day
Houston	Administration Fee*	\$71/week partial obstruction \$112/week full obstruction	Outside CBD: \$59/week local street; \$106-\$130/week Arterial/Collector Inside CBD: \$124-\$160/week
San Antonio	\$50.00	\$0.0629 sf. ft./day	\$0.0629 sq. ft./day

* The fees may be subject to an administrative fee per Code Section 1-14

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Operational Impacts

- Lowest lane/sidewalk closures fees of major cities in Texas
- Streets and sidewalks stay closed longer than needed for construction
- Minimal permittee consideration of impacts of closures on traveling public



Staff Recommendation

- Public Works recommends:
 - Creation of a \$50 Application Fee for each Lane and Sidewalk Closure Permit
 - A revised, tiered-fee structure based on duration of closure and number of traffic lanes closed

Staff Recommendation

- Proposed Lane and Sidewalk Closure Fee Structure

Closure Fees	Number of Days Closed	Fees
Sidewalk & 1st. Lane Closure	0-60	\$0.012/sq. ft./day
	61-120	\$0.024/sq. ft./day
	121-180	\$0.048/sq. ft./day
	180 or more	\$0.096/sq. ft./day
2nd. or Additional Traffic Lane Closures	0-60	\$0.036/sq. ft./day
	61-120	\$0.072/sq. ft./day
	121-180	\$0.144/sq. ft./day
	180 or more	\$0.288/sq. ft./day

Staff Recommendation

- Proposed Lane and Sidewalk Closure Fee Structure Example



Fee Structure	Number of Days Closed	Closure Fee	Closure Cost
Existing	61	\$0.006/sq. ft./day	\$366
Proposed	61	\$0.024/sq. ft./day	\$1,464 + \$50 Application Fee = \$1,514

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Staff Recommendation

- The proposed fee structure would result in an additional \$1M to \$3M in revenues in FY 2021
- Should incentivize contractors to remove their barricades as early as possible
- The proposed fees are being reviewed through a “Study of Fees for Services,” and may be subject to change

Next Steps

- Work with the Office of Budget to determine implementation schedule and finalize projected revenues
- Brief the Mayor and Council Members
- Begin communicating these proposed changes with the development community and contractors

ROW Citations

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Background/History

- ROW Citations are issued for non-adherence to the City codes and ordinances governing work in the City's ROW
- ROW Citations carry a fine of \$500 per violation, per day
- Since August 2018, PBW has issued 553 citations

Operational Impacts

- A total of 11 PBW staff issue ROW citations primarily for:
 - Working without a permit
 - Failure to comply with restrictions or requirements of a permit issued
 - No permit on site

Staff Recommendation

- Increase the \$500 per violation, per day to \$700 per violation, per day
- Intent of this rate revision is increased adherence to City of Dallas' codes and ordinances associated with working within the City's ROW

Next Steps

- Work with the Office of Budget to determine implementation schedule and projected revenues
 - An October 1, 2020 implementation would result in additional revenues of approximately \$45K in FY 2021
- Brief the Mayor and Council Members
- Begin communicating these proposed changes with the development community and contractors

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