

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE September 16, 2021

TO Honorable Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

SUBJECT **Rush Hour Parking Restrictions in the Central Business District**

In November 2020, several Councilmembers and business owners in Downtown [requested](#) a temporary elimination of rush hour parking restrictions in the Central Business District (CBD) as a component of the City's approach to addressing short-term parking needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. They cited that removing the rush hour parking restrictions would allow for additional parking spaces during critical business hours and would have a minimal impact on traffic flow due to the decrease in volume on local streets.

On Wednesday, August 11, 2021, Downtown Dallas, Inc. (DDI) submitted the attached letter to the City Manager requesting the continuation of this program. The Department of Transportation is coordinating with DDI to identify appropriate blocks and/ or streets within the CBD to implement this change by removing the rush hour parking restriction signs. Staff will continue to evaluate the impacts on traffic flow over the coming months and make adjustments, as needed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ghassan 'Gus' Khankarli, Director of the Department of Transportation, at ghassan.khankarli@dallascityhall.com.

Majed Al-Ghafry, P.E.
Assistant City Manager

[Attachment]

c:	T.C. Broadnax, City Manager Chris Caso, City Attorney Mark Swann, City Auditor Biliera Johnson, City Secretary Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager	Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion Directors and Assistant Directors
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August 11, 2021

T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
City of Dallas
1500 Marilla Street
Dallas, Texas 75201

RE: Elimination of Rush Hour Time Restrictions at Parking Meters in the Central Business District

Dear Mr. Broadnax,

Please accept this letter as Downtown Dallas, Inc.'s (DDI) support to eliminate rush hour time restrictions at all parking meters throughout the Central Business District once the City's COVID-19 emergency orders are lifted.

We appreciate City staff's willingness to initiate a pilot program late last year to temporarily lift the rush hour time restrictions in an effort to stimulate and support economic activity in Downtown during the coronavirus pandemic. We believe the pilot program – in addition to recent thoroughfare amendments in which the operational characteristics of the outside (parking) lanes have changed in certain areas – has been successful in demonstrating Downtown streets' abilities to facilitate traffic movement within a reduced capacity, while also providing critical access to our street-level businesses and restaurants.

Additionally, the rush hour time restriction removal on several hundred parking meters throughout Downtown will:

- Generate additional revenue at meters where parking was once restricted at certain times of the day;
- Increase sales tax receipts as more people will be able to easily access Downtown's street-level businesses;
- Allow businesses to activate the outside (parking) lane with parklets and other programming to support Downtown commerce and vibrancy; and
- Create an inviting Downtown neighborhood in which motorists can easily find affordable, accessible parking close to their destination.

DDI and the City's Department of Transportation will continue to monitor the short- and long-term effects of the rush hour time restriction elimination and will collaborate on any adjustments, if needed. DDI has been a proponent of this project for many years, and we look forward to working with City staff to indefinitely extend the rush hour time restriction elimination at all Downtown parking meters as we continue to create a safe, well-connected, and accessible Central Business District.

Sincerely,



Kourtny Garrett
President and CEO



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DALLAS INC**

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