



# CITY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Date: July 22, 2020  
Time: 6:00 PM  
Location: [YouTube Channel](#)

## AGENDA ITEMS

Item	Voting Item?	Presenter(s)	Time Allotted
		Chair, Deb Mohlenhoff	
1. Call to Order	No		15 Mins*
1.1 Agenda Review			
1.2 Review and Approval of Minutes			
Approval of June 17, 2020 Minutes	Yes		
1.3 Statements from the Public			
*Submitted comments will be summarized and names entered into the record.		*Submit public comments here: <a href="https://j.mp/2XUYUdW">https://j.mp/2XUYUdW</a>	
1.4 Council's Response			
2. Consent			
No submitted Items			
3. Finance, Budget and Appropriations			
3.1 Funding of Traffic Signal Replacement at 3 Intersections	Yes	Eric Hathaway, Director of Parking and Transportation	10 Min
4. City Administration, Human Resources and Policy			
4.1 Extension of Deadlines for Construction Projects	Yes	Rob Fell-deWalt, Senior Plan Examiner	10 Min
4.2 Possible Dissolution of the BPW - Update	No	Deb Mohlenhoff, Chair	10 Min
5. Discussion			
No submitted items			
6. Meeting Wrap-Up	No	All	5 Min
6.1 Announcements			
6.2 Next Meeting Date: August 26, 2020			
6.3 Review Agenda Items for Next Meeting			
6.4 Adjourn			

If you have a disability that will require special arrangements to be made for you to fully participate in the meeting, please contact the City Clerk at 274-6570 at least 48 hours before the meeting.

This meeting can be viewed via livestream on: <https://j.mp/2AWrkvg>

### **3. Finance, Budget and Appropriations**

#### **.1 Funding of Traffic Signal Replacement at State/Stewart, Cayuga/Lincoln, Cayuga/Tompkins - Resolution**

WHEREAS, The City of Ithaca has received a Pedestrian Safety Action Plan grant, which includes improvements at the signalized intersections of E MLK Jr/E State Street & Stewart Avenue, Cayuga Street & Lincoln Street, and Cayuga Street & Tompkins Street; and

WHEREAS, the grant only covers construction of pedestrian safety enhancements, such as pedestrian signal heads and push buttons; and

WHEREAS, the signal equipment at these intersections is nearing the end of its useful life; and

WHEREAS, the signal head at the intersection of Cayuga & Lincoln is low enough that it was recently struck by a truck and cannot function properly as a result; and

WHEREAS, there would be an increased cost to build only the pedestrian improvements now and the full reconstruction later; and

WHEREAS, the traffic signal at the intersection of Cayuga & Lincoln cannot function properly without \$15,000 of equipment replacement that can be reused at other intersections at a later time; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, That Common Council approves the funding (\$175,000) of the construction costs beyond the grant funded improvements to reconstruct the traffic signals at the signalized intersections of E MLK Jr/E State Street & Stewart Avenue, Cayuga Street & Lincoln Street, and Cayuga Street & Tompkins Street; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That Common Council approves \$15,000 in equipment funding to make the intersection of Cayuga & Lincoln functional as a three color signal.



**CITY OF ITHACA**  
**108 E. Green St. — Second Floor Ithaca, NY 14850-5690**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**Telephone: 607-274-6530 Fax: 607-274-6587**

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**To:** City Administration Committee Members  
**From:** Eric Hathaway, Director of Parking and Transportation  
**Date:** July 8, 2020  
**Re:** **Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP) Funding**

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The City of Ithaca has received a grant for pedestrian safety improvements at the signalized intersections of E MLK Jr/E State Street & Stewart Avenue, Cayuga Street & Lincoln Street, and Cayuga Street & Tompkins Street, as well as other locations. The grant will cover the installation of pedestrian head indications, push buttons and other infrastructure required to allow these pedestrian improvements to function at these three intersections.

I would like to take advantage of this opportunity and replace the remainder of signal equipment at these three intersection at the same time (in 2021) with City funds. The City would contribute \$175,000 total for all three intersections, while the grant would cover about \$300,000 of the costs. There are several reasons why it is important to replace the full signal at this time:

- The traffic signal head at Cayuga & Lincoln was recently struck by a truck and cannot currently function properly as a result. This head is susceptible to further truck damage without reconstruction, as it cannot otherwise be raised properly.
- The three traffic signals are very old and will likely need to be replaced in the next few years.
- If only the pedestrian enhancements are constructed, future traffic signal reconstruction will be more expensive. Some work would have to be redone and mobilization, survey and maintenance and protection of traffic would be paid for twice. The estimated cost savings of doing all of the work at once is \$35,000.

I am requesting these funds now, instead of through the capital project process, because I need to obligate these funds before the end of September. If I cannot obligate the funds by that time, there is a significant chance that the entire grant funding could be put in jeopardy, due to uncertainties around approval of a national transportation bill.

In addition to the \$175,000 requested above, the City Electrician requests \$15,000 to temporarily replace the existing signal head and related infrastructure at Cayuga & Lincoln. If we cannot fund this improvement, it is likely the traffic signal will remain in flash until the PSAP construction project can be completed, likely a year or more from now. Once the PSAP construction project is completed, this temporary equipment can be reused at other locations in the City and will not have been wasted.

I appreciate that these are challenging financial times. For that reason, this is the only transportation project for which I am requesting funding in 2021. The project has immense safety implications, especially for school students, and the grant makes it a tremendous value. Thank you for your consideration.

**4. City Administration, Human Resources and Policy**

**.1 Resolution Enabling the City to Extend Certain Deadlines for Construction Projects Delayed Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic**

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 202 declaring a disaster emergency in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Governor recently signed a bill (S8236A/A10409) authorizing local governments to extend building permits, zoning board approvals, and planning board approvals for a period of 120 days for the duration of the state disaster emergency declaration; and

WHEREAS, Planning and Building Division staff recognize that various construction projects within the City may have been delayed or continue to be delayed due to the COVID-19 restrictions; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that for the duration of the stated disaster emergency declared pursuant to executive order 202 of 2020, the Director of Planning, Building and Economic Development or her designee may extend for a period of up to 120 days beyond the stated expiration date any building permits, Board of Zoning Appeals approvals and/or Planning Board approvals issued before March 7, 2020.

# STATE OF NEW YORK

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8236--A

## IN SENATE

April 27, 2020

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Introduced by Sens. GAUGHRAN, METZGER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT relating to authorizing local governments to extend building permits and local zoning boards of appeals and local planning boards active approvals for a period of up to 120 days; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon the expiration thereof

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- 1 Section 1. For the duration of the state disaster emergency declared  
2 pursuant to executive order 202 of 2020, local governments may, acting  
3 pursuant to a single resolution, extend for a period of up to 120 days  
4 beyond the stated expiration date:
- 5 1. building permits issued before March 7, 2020; and
  - 6 2. local zoning boards of appeals and local planning boards active  
7 approvals issued before March 7, 2020.
- 8 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire and be  
9 deemed repealed December 31, 2021.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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