



COMMON COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

Date: 12-01-2021
 Time: 6:00 PM
 Location: YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7RtJN1P_RFaFW2IVCnTrDg

Item	Voting Item	Presenter(s)	Time Allotted
Call to Order			
1.1 Additions to or Deletions from the Agenda	No	Mayor Myrick	10 Mins
1.2 Proclamations/Awards	No		
1.3 Special Presentations Before Council	No	HR Dir Michell-Nunn	15 Mins
▪ Reimagining Public Safety Collaborative			
▪ Annual Pride of Ownership Awards	No	Ithaca Rotary Club	20 Mins
1.4 Reports of Municipal Officials	No		10 Mins
2.1 Petitions and Hearings of Persons before Council	No	*Note: See instructions on how to participate on page 2 of the agenda.	40 Mins
2.2 Privilege of the Floor – Mayor and Council	No		
Consent Agenda Items			
3.1 Public Information and Technology - Amendment to Personnel Roster	Yes	Common Council	5 Mins
3.2 Fire Department - Fee Increases			
3.3 Finance – Approval of 2021-2022 Civil Service Agreement with the Ithaca City School District			
3.4 Finance – Authorization to Cover Red Accounts			
3.5 Mayor - Wellness Incentive			
City Administration Committee Items			
4.1 A Local Law to Amend Chapter 107 of the City of Ithaca Municipal Code Regarding the Salaries of Common Council and the Mayor	Yes	City Attorney Lavine	5 Mins
4.2 Report of the City Controller	No	City Controller Thayer	10 Mins

Item	Voting Item	Presenter(s)	Time Allotted
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Planning & Economic Development Committee Items

No agenda items were submitted for consideration

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER FILED RESOLUTIONS

5.1 An Ordinance to Amend Data Transfer Rate Provisions in Small Cell Ordinance	Yes	Aldersperson McGonigal	15 Mins
5.2 A Resolution to Request the Establishment of a Capital Project to Allow for the City to Safely Continue to Implement the Seasonal Aurora Streatery	Yes	Mayor Myrick	15 Mins

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL & STAFF

6.1 Reports of Special Committees 6.2 Reports of Common Council Liaisons 6.3 Report of City Clerk 6.4 Report of City Attorney	No	Common Council and Staff	15 Mins
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MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION

7.1 Executive Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining Negotiations 7.2 Executive Session to Discuss the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property the publicity of which would substantially affect the value thereof.	Yes	Common Council	30 Mins
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MEETING WRAP-UP

8.1 Adjournment

How to Participate in Public Comment Virtually

Email Common Council Through the Agenda Link

Written comments can be submitted to Common Council using this form: [Common Council Public Comment Form](#). Comments should be submitted no later than 5:00 pm on the day of the meeting. These comments will not be read into the record but will be included as an attachment to the meeting minutes. Any comments received after 5:00 pm will be saved for the next meeting.

Register to Speak at the Meeting Via Zoom

At 9:00 am on the day of the Common Council meeting, a link will be opened on the [Common Council webpage](#) for people to register to speak at the beginning of the meeting. The first hour of the meeting will be dedicated to public speaking. Registration will close at 3:00 pm in order to allow time to calculate how long each person will be allowed to speak. If you register, you will be emailed the Zoom link later that day. Use that link to sign in and enter the Zoom meeting. You will be selected to speak in the order that you were registered. You must be present in the meeting when it is your turn to speak, or you will forfeit your time. You can use video or telephone to participate.

Questions about the meeting protocol can be forwarded to City Clerk Julie Conley Holcomb at (607) 274-6570 or jholcomb@cityofithaca.org in advance of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:
CITY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE:

3.1 Public Information and Technology - Amendment to Personnel Roster

WHEREAS, the Information Technology positions in the Department of Public Information and Technology were created in 2001 when the IT Department was initially created, and

WHEREAS, the positions have been modified over the years to respond to new trends in technology and the City's expanding needs, and

WHEREAS, the level of flexibility and adaptability in departmental job descriptions needs to be adjusted to create a level of depth and redundancy in staff skill levels and responsibilities, and

WHEREAS, the Information Systems Manager title eliminates a narrow, specialized job title and creates a broader job classification that encompasses a variety of advanced technical duties and responsibilities and allows for flexibility as needed in the future, and

WHEREAS, the opportunity to move into the Information Systems Manager title was offered to both senior technical staff members of the Public Information and Technology Department in 2017, and now both employees have elected to do so; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Personnel Roster of the Department of Public Information and Technology be amended as follows:

Add: One (1) Information Systems Manager
Delete: One (1) Senior Network Administrator

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the funding for this roster change shall be obtained from with the allocated departmental budget.

3.2 Fire Department - Fee Increases

WHEREAS, section 181-9 F(1) of the Code of the City of Ithaca states the Fire Chief shall promulgate a fee schedule applicable to the permits authorized under such code, and

WHEREAS, §181-9 F states that fees established in the fee schedule shall reasonably reflect the cost of receiving, investigating, processing, and issuing each of said permits, and

WHEREAS, §181-9 F requires that any schedule and said changes proposed thereto shall be submitted to the Common Council for adoption prior to the collection of such fees, and

WHEREAS, the permit fee schedule is based on the cost of labor, fringe benefit, and operational costs of performing the inspections and processing the permits, and

WHEREAS, the fees were last adjusted and approved by Common Council on December 4, 2019, and the current fees do not reflect the actual costs of the service provided, and

WHEREAS, the proposed fee schedule for 2022 increases the hourly rate for inspections and plan reviews, from \$58.00 to \$60.00 per hour, and from \$87.00 to \$90.00 per hour for work performed during non-business hours, which will result in such fees reflecting current costs, and

WHEREAS, the prepared proposal includes additional permit fees for Outdoor Assembly Events and Commercial Outdoor Fire Places, which are permits required under 19 NYCRR 1225, The Fire Code of New York State, and

WHEREAS, all current fire permit fees will remain unchanged in 2022; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, The Common Council of the City of Ithaca does hereby approve the proposed increase in permit fees as proposed, and, be it further

RESOLVED, These changes shall be authorized upon adoption of this resolution by the Common Council, with an effective date of January 1, 2022.

2022 Fire Prevention Permit and Inspection Fees

Permit Type	Fee	Comments
Assembly Occupancy Permit (50-299 occupants)	\$50/building	Issued annually and does not include inspection fees
Assembly Occupancy Permit (>300 occupants)	\$100/building	Issued annually and does not include inspection fees
Outdoor Assembly Events	\$100/event	Issued per event and does not include inspection or safety plan review fees
Elevator Permit	\$60/elevator unit	Issued every 3 years and does not include inspection fees
Lumberyard Occupancy Permit	\$50/building	Issued annually and does not include inspection fees
Hazardous Occupancy Permit	\$50/building	Issued annually and does not include inspection fees
Fireworks Permit	\$50	Per event and does not include inspection fees
Explosives Use	\$50	Per location and does not include inspection fees
Bon Fire Permit	\$50	Per event and includes 1 inspection
Outdoor Fireplace Commercial Occupancy	\$125 (6 months) \$200 (12 months)	Permit and includes 3 inspections
Asphalt Kettles	\$50	Per location/month and includes 1 inspection
Temporary Propane Permit	\$50	1 month/venue and includes 1 inspection
Temporary Propane Permit	\$125	6 months/venue and includes up to 2 inspections
Temporary Propane Permit	\$200	12 months/venue and includes up to 4 inspections
Food Truck Permit	\$50	1 month/venue and includes 1 inspection
Food Truck Permit	\$125	6 months/venue and includes up to 2 inspections
Food Truck Permit	\$200	12 months/venue and includes up to 4 inspections
Welding and Cutting Permit	\$50	1 month / firm or business and includes 1 inspection
Welding and Cutting Permit	\$125	6 months / firm or business and includes up to 2 inspections
Welding and Cutting Permit	\$200	12 months / firm or business and includes up to 4 inspections
Parking Garage Permit	\$50/Garage	Issued every year and does not include inspection fees
Emergency Responder Radio System	\$50/System	Issued every 3 years and does not include inspection fees
Fire Inspection Rate	\$60/hour	
Fire Protection Plan Review Rate	\$60/hour	
Fire Safety Plan Review	\$60/hour	

3.3 Finance – Approval of 2021-2022 Civil Service Agreement with the Ithaca City School District

RESOLVED, That the Mayor and City Controller be authorized and directed to execute an agreement between the City of Ithaca and Ithaca City School District for performance by the City for services in connection with Civil Service matters for the period July 1, 2021, to June 20, 2022, in an amount of \$65,332 payable to the City of Ithaca on or before December 1, 2021.

AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT made the ___ day of _____, 2021, by and between the CITY OF ITHACA, a municipal corporation of the State of New York, hereinafter referred to as the “City”, party of the first part, and CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, CITY OF ITHACA, a municipal corporation of the State of New York, hereinafter referred to as the “School District”, party of the second part.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the School District desires to enter into a contract with the City for the performance by the City of certain services, to avoid duplication and unnecessary expense, particularly services in connection with Civil Service matters on behalf of the School District, pursuant to Section 2503, subparagraph 16, of the New York Education Law, and

WHEREAS, the total number of classified Civil Service employees on the payrolls of the City and the City School District for the final payroll period in December 2020 was 841, and

WHEREAS, the actual annual expenditures for the Civil Service Commission of the City of Ithaca for the 2021 fiscal year of the City was \$125,158;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. That for the services rendered and to be rendered by the City for the School District during the School District fiscal year, which is July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, the School District shall pay to the City a lump sum of \$65,332, payable on or before December 31, 2021.

2. In consideration of such payment, the City agrees:
 - (a) to furnish the School District the part-time services of the Civil Service Commission of the City of Ithaca and the members of its staff, and the City Clerk and the members of her staff; and

- (b) to handle the records and perform any other necessary Civil Service services relating to Board of Education employees in the classified service, including examinations and tests when required.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused these presents to be executed by their respective duly authorized officers as of the day and year first above written.

CITY OF ITHACA, NEW YORK

By: _____
Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CITY OF ITHACA, NEW YORK

By: _____

ATTEST:

School District Clerk

3.4 Finance – Authorization to Cover Red Accounts

RESOLVED, That the City Controller be empowered to make transfers within the 2021 budget appropriations, as needed, for the remainder of the 2021 Fiscal Year.

3.5 Mayor - Wellness Incentive

WHEREAS, in the face of the pandemic in 2020, the City changed health insurance options for the Mayor—in addition to Management and Confidential employees, among others—to establish the Platinum Plan as the standard health insurance available, and

WHEREAS, in summer 2021 the CSEA Administrative Unit likewise agreed to a labor contract establishing the Platinum Plan as the standard health insurance option for its membership, and in support thereof the City agreed to provide all employees in that bargaining unit (and confidentials) who are enrolled in the Platinum Plan the opportunity to receive substantial financial incentives for successful participation in the Platinum Plan's wellness program, and

WHEREAS, on September 1, 2021, as updated on November 3, 2021, the Common Council adopted a resolution that implemented wellness program incentives for management (and likewise expanded 2021 payment eligibility for the same for confidentials), providing those employees who were

- “enrolled in the Platinum Plan as of July 1, 2021 [with] applicable wellness amounts in 2021 prorated at 50% value *without* any need to satisfy wellness targets in 2021 (i.e., \$1,000 for family plan participants, and \$375 for individual plan participants), but in succeeding full years at 100% value subject to achieving applicable targets”; and
- “enrolled in the Platinum Plan as of January 1, 2021, and remain employed by the City as of November 3, 2021, shall receive applicable wellness amounts in 2021 at 100% value *without* any need to satisfy wellness targets in 2021 (i.e., \$2,000 for family plan participants, and \$750 for individual plan participants), and in succeeding full years at 100% value subject to achieving applicable target”; and

WHEREAS, those prior resolutions were premised upon the belief that “Management should receive not only the burden of organization-wide shifts in the City's labor contracts, but also the benefits”, and

WHEREAS, Mayor's role as a working chief executive officer of the organization justifies providing the Mayor with benefits equivalent to those provided to management employed by the City; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, The Mayor, if enrolled in the Platinum Plan, shall be eligible for the wellness incentive on the same terms as Management, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That in light of the inability to administer Wellness testing in the short remainder of 2021, the Mayor, if enrolled in the Platinum Plan as of January 1, 2021, shall receive applicable wellness amounts in 2021 on the same terms as did Management, namely, at 100% value *without* any need to satisfy wellness targets in 2021 (i.e., \$2,000 for family plan participants, and \$750 for individual plan participants), and in succeeding full years at 100% value subject to achieving applicable targets as provided in the “Fringe Benefits for Managerial Personnel” policy and associated implementation of the Wellness Program, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That this resolution shall cease to apply to the position of Mayor at such time, if any, as the City shifts to a Council-Manager form of government.

CITY ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE:

4.1 A Local Law to Amend Chapter 107 of the City of Ithaca Municipal Code Regarding the Salaries of Common Council and the Mayor

WHEREAS, the annual salaries of the members of the Common Council and the Mayor were last adjusted effective January 2016; and

WHEREAS, at that time those salaries were adjusted to their current levels of \$10,141 and \$58,561, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council approved a 2022 budget that funds these salaries in 2022 at the levels of \$13,141 per member and \$61,489, respectively; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council seeks to amend Chapter 107 of the City Code in order to effectuate these amended salaries as funded by the approved budget; now therefore,

BE IT ENACTED by the Common Council of the City of Ithaca as follows:

Local Law No. 2021 -

Section 1. Legislative Findings, Intent, and Purpose.

It is the intent of this local law to amend Chapter 107 of the City Code in order to effectuate the revised 2022 salaries of Council members and the Mayor as funded in the 2022 approved budget, with said salary to be effective as of January 1, 2022.

The Common Council makes the following findings of fact:

- A. The members of the Common Council and the Mayor expend substantial efforts and devote large amounts of time to their duties, and
- B. The annual salaries of the members of the Common Council and the Mayor were last adjusted nearly six years ago, and there has been some inflation in the intervening years.

Section 2. Code Amendments.

Section 107-1 of the City Code is hereby amended as follows:

The annual salary of the Mayor shall be the sum of [~~\$58,561~~] **\$61,489**.

Section 107-2 of the City Code is hereby amended as follows:

The annual salary of the Council members shall be the sum of [~~\$10,141~~] **\$13,141**.

Section 3. Severability Clause.

Severability is intended throughout and within the provisions of this Local Law. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Local Law is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, then that decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Local Law.

Section 4. Effective Date.

Upon filing in the office of the Secretary of State, this Local Law shall take effect retroactive to January 1, 2022. This Local Law is subject to referendum on petition pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law Section 24.

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

No items were submitted for consideration

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER FILED RESOLUTION

5.1 An Ordinance to Amend Data Transfer Rate Provisions in Small Cell Ordinance

WHEREAS, on 10/6/2021 Common Council voted to amend City Code § 325-29.5 (Definitions), § 325-29.10 (Submittal requirements), and § 325-29.12(B)(1)(a) (Tiered permit process), which regulate the placement of telecommunications facilities, to include the use of minimum wireless data transfer speeds as a method for proving significant gap in coverage; and

WHEREAS, the City retained a legal expert on wireless small cell installations (Andrew Campanelli), who has since specifically advised the City not to include a minimum data download speed requirement to prove a significant gap in coverage, stating that the City will not be able to ascertain if reports provided by the applicant on download speed are accurate, and

WHEREAS, legally dropped calls are required as proof of a significant gap in coverage because voice calls (not data) are classified as Title II, and thus are the only service that carries federal pre-emption from local codes, and

WHEREAS, it is unduly burdensome to task the City and the BZA with determining whether or not submissions of hard wireless data speeds by the applicants are accurate and not specious; now therefore

Ordinance No. 2021-__

BE IT ORDAINED by the Common Council of the City of Ithaca as follows:

Section 1. Legislative findings, intent, and purpose.

The Common Council makes the following findings:

1. Wireless data transfer speeds can fluctuate and vary widely at the same location, using the same device, and can be adjusted up or down by the telecommunications companies.
2. In passing the 10/6/21 ordinance, Council sought to “balance the simultaneous objectives of enabling wireless carriers to provide personal wireless services within the City while protecting the City’s zoning authority and concerns in minimizing the number of facilities used to provide such coverage, avoid unnecessary, redundant wireless infrastructure, and avoiding to the greatest extent possible, any unnecessary adverse impacts upon residential homes and residential communities.”
3. Establishing a data speed threshold as the basis for establishing a significant gap in coverage increases the potential to upset the foregoing balance that the Common Council seeks to maintain.

Based upon the above findings, the intent and purpose of this ordinance is to amend the City Code to remove minimum wireless data transfer speed requirements from the Telecommunications Facilities and Services sections of the City Code.

Section 2. Amendments to Article VA “Telecommunications Facilities and Services” of City Code Chapter 325 “Zoning”

(a) ***Amend §325-29.5 “Definitions” to amend the following definition as follows:***

SIGNIFICANT GAP IN COVERAGE or SIGNIFICANT COVERAGE GAP

A significant coverage gap exists when a remote user of those services is unable to either connect with the land-based national telephone network, or to maintain a connection capable of supporting a reasonably uninterrupted communication. A significant coverage gap exists when customers cannot receive and send signals, and when customers pass through a coverage gap their calls are disconnected ~~or download and upload data transfer rates drop below 10 megabits per second~~. An applicant’s claim that it needs the proposed tower for “future capacity” or to “improve coverage” is not sufficient to establish that it suffers from a significant gap in service coverage.

(b) ***Amend §325-29.10(B)(7), “Submittal requirements” as follows:***

(7) For purposes of submitting the maps required by subparagraphs B.5 and B.6 above, the applicant shall demonstrate network performance based on a sample of on-the-ground testing (drive tests) data and certify the accuracy of the data under penalty of perjury and that the testing is statistically appropriate for the area tested. The applicant shall provide the hard data that was employed to create such map or maps, including drive test data demonstrating the existence, location, and geographic boundary of the gap in coverage which the PWSF is intended to remedy, or if demonstrating *capacity deficiency*, actual ~~records of dropped calls or download and upload data transfer rates below 10 megabits per second~~ call records from the carrier, and the location and geographic boundary of the capacity deficiency.

(c) ***Amend § 325-29.12, “Tiered permit process”, to amend subsection (B)(1)(a) as follows:***

(B)(1)(a) reliable drive test data to demonstrate the significant gap in coverage or actual ~~records of dropped calls or download and upload data transfer rates below 10 megabits per second~~ call records to demonstrate a capacity deficiency, including the location and geographic boundaries of such, that the PWSF proposes to remedy;

Section 3. Severability Clause.

Severability is intended throughout and within the provisions of this Ordinance. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, then that decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance.

Section 4. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately and in accordance with law upon publication of notices as provided in the Ithaca City Charter.

5.2 A Resolution to Request the Establishment of a Capital Project to Fund the Evaluation and Design of Traffic, Parking, Loading, and Safety Improvements to Allow for the City to Safely Continue to Implement the Seasonal Aurora Streatery

WHEREAS, in 2020, many restaurants were forced to close for an extended period due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and

WHEREAS, once restaurants were permitted to reopen, NYS Guidelines required them to significantly limit their dining capacity, and

WHEREAS, in May of 2020, the City was approached by a group of restaurant owners on Aurora Street that requested that the City consider closing the 100 block of North Aurora Street to allow for expanded outdoor dining areas that would offset the reduced capacity requirements, and

WHEREAS, the City responded by temporarily closing the 100 block of North Aurora Street to vehicular traffic in order to allow for the expansion of the outdoor dining area for the remainder of the 2020 outdoor dining season, and

WHEREAS, this temporary pedestrian only block proved to be popular for the community, and response to the popularity of the Streatery, the City decided to extend the outdoor dining season an extra month and keep the street closed until the third week in November, and

WHEREAS, given the ongoing pandemic and ongoing discomfort by many to dine inside of restaurants, the City decided to continue the Streatery for 2021, and

WHEREAS, in 2021 the Streatery was once again widely used by the community and pedestrian counts were approximately 200,000 a month, and

WHEREAS, the Streatery was established in response to the Pandemic and was only meant to be a temporary means of alleviating some of the impacts of the pandemic and the increased requirements, and

WHEREAS, before the City can consider whether to continue to have the Streatery on a more permanent seasonal basis, the City would like to fully understand and attempt to improve to the extent possible the traffic, parking, loading, and safety impacts of closing the 100 block of North Aurora Street to vehicular traffic, and

WHEREAS, staff has determined that in order to properly evaluate the impacts and design and implement traffic mitigations, an outside consultant will need to be hired; now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED, That the Common Council does hereby authorize the establishment of Capital Project #889 in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 to fund the evaluation of the traffic, parking, loading, and safety concerns of the Streatery, and design of potential mitigations, and, be it further,

RESOLVED, That the Common Council does hereby authorize the Mayor to enter into a contract with a consultant to complete this evaluation and design project, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That funds necessary to fund said study shall be derived from the issuance of Serial Bonds.



CITY OF ITHACA

108 E. Green St. — Third Floor Ithaca, NY 14850-5690

Lisa Nicholas, Acting Director

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, BUILDING, ZONING, & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Division of Planning & Economic Development

Planning & Development – 607-274-6550 Community Development/IURA – 607-274-6565
E-Mail: dgrunder@cityofithaca.org

TO: Common Council

FROM: Jennifer Kuszniir, Senior Planner
Eric Hathaway, Director of Transportation and Parking
Erin Cuddihy, Transportation Engineer

DATE: November 23, 2021

RE: **Request to Establish a Capital Project to Fund the Evaluation and Design of Traffic and Safety Improvements to Allow an Improved Aurora Sreatery in 2022**

The purpose of this memo is to provide information about a request to establish a new capital project, the **Streatery Evaluation and Design Project** (with the engineering design consultant Stantec) that would fund the evaluation of the traffic, safety, parking, and loading impacts of the closure of the 100 block of North Aurora Street, as well as the design of modifications that would improve those.

In 2020, New York State required restaurants to temporarily close in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Once the New York State restrictions began to lift allowing for restaurants to re-open, they were still significantly limited in allowable capacity. The extended closures and subsequent limited capacities had dramatic economic impacts on restaurants. In May of 2020, the City was approached by a group of restaurant owners on Aurora Street that requested that the City consider closing the 100 block of North Aurora Street to allow for expanded outdoor dining areas that would offset the reduced capacity requirements. The City responded by temporarily closing the 100 block of North Aurora Street to vehicular traffic in order to allow for the expansion of the outdoor dining area for the remainder of the 2020 outdoor dining season. This new temporary pedestrian block has been named the Streatery.

The temporary Streatery proved to be widely popular for the entire community, and the City saw an increase in pedestrian traffic and activity. In response to the popularity of the Streatery, the City decided to extend the outdoor dining season an extra month and keep the street closed until the third week in November. Given the ongoing pandemic and ongoing discomfort by many to dine inside of restaurants, the City decided to continue the Streatery for 2021. Camera-based pedestrian counts in this area are showing as many as 200,000 pedestrians a month visiting the Streatery.

When the Streatery was established, it was only intended to be a temporary means of alleviating some of the impacts of the pandemic and the increased requirements; however, it was not extensively studied for impacts on traffic, parking, and loading. The densification and changes in this area over the past several years (Marriott, City Centre, Canopy, Gateway, 140 Seneca Way) have changed the parking and traffic dynamics of the eastern portion of downtown. The Streatery helped expose these issues. The already wide sidewalks and narrowed street width of the 100 North Aurora block made delivery and loading an issue, with or without the Streatery.

Given the high usage of the area, staff feels that it is important to consider whether to continue to have the Streatery on a more permanent seasonal or temporal basis. However, before this can be considered, staff is recommending that the City hire an outside consultant to evaluate the traffic, parking, loading, and safety impacts of closing the 100 block of North Aurora Street to vehicular traffic, and to design improvements to mitigate the city's and the public's concerns. Enclosed for your consideration is a draft resolution requesting that the City establish a capital project to fund this evaluation and design project.

The scope of the **Streatery Evaluation and Design Project** is listed below (six tasks, \$120,000):

1. **Existing conditions evaluation**, including the following:

- Desire line analysis
- Traffic flows (including trucks)
- Speed evaluation
- Mapping of the above
- (*Estimated task cost: \$15,000*)

2. **Public process & alternatives development**, including the following:

- Establishment of options
- Interviews with restaurant owners, City councilors, and Downtown Ithaca Alliance to determine and document levels of support and issues of concern with the Aurora Street closure
- Design workshop
- (Potential public survey)
- (*Estimated task cost: \$15,000*)

3. **Pilot evaluation plan:**

- Development of implementation and evaluation plan for the Streatery in 2022, including temporary design features (alternative barriers, truck attenuator, new Streatery features, etc.), restaurant access/tables/loading/HP layout, and proposed before/during data/evaluation collection (conflicts, traffic counts, surveys, etc.)
- (*Estimated task cost: \$15,000*)

4. **Loading & parking impact evaluation:**

- Evaluation of nearby parking & loading activity, potential impacts, development of alternative loading zones
- (*Estimated task cost: \$10,000*)

5. **Traffic diversion analysis**, including the following:

- Analysis of a small network model (~6 intersections) of existing conditions
- Three traffic scheme alternatives (closures, 1-way nb, 1-way sb)
- (*Estimated task cost: \$40,000*)

6. **Conceptual design:**

- Conceptual illustrated designs (3 alternatives) of the Streatery, the Aurora St. & State St. intersection, and the E. State St./ E. Green St./Seneca Way intersection to facilitate public process, diversion analysis, funding applications, etc. (including

- scheme/s for improved safety through protection of the street from errant vehicles using crash attenuators or bollards or another protection to be determined)
- (*Estimated task cost: \$25,000*)

If stakeholders decide in the future to formalize the Streatery by reconstructing the street so it is an extension of the Commons, which is one of the options for having a Streatery on a permanent basis, we would have the option to do an additional project with the consultant Stantec. That separate (future) project could including the following tasks:

Commons Extension - 25% design. Preliminary construction-level design, including curb plan, markings, signs, preliminary utilizes & drainage, and basic grading for streatery, Aurora & State, and State/Green/Seneca. (surface and utility survey not included) *Est. \$150,000*

Streetscape – 25% design. Landscape architecture services, including benches, plantings, green infrastructure, materials, etc. as well as renderings. *Est. \$50,000.*

At this time, we are only considering doing the initial project (six tasks) to evaluate and design parking, loading, traffic, and safety infrastructure so we could implement the Streatery in 2022.

If you have any questions, please contact Erin Cuddihy, Transportation Engineer, at ecuddihy@cityofithaca.org, or Jennifer Kuszniir, Senior Planner, at jkuszniir@cityofithaca.org.