# **Transportation Department in Response to Covid-19** 2020-03-30

### **Traffic Engineering**

- Office staff work from home. Tasks continue, such as plans/specs, ped-bike improvement evaluation, etc.
- Field staff continue to work, which include marking and signing, electrical, and radio shop.
  - New safety protocols limit work together. All work assigned electronically with staggered start. Radio shop ½ staff to promote distancing.
- Signs on paths asking for 6-feet separation.
- Along with PU bagging metered parking for pickups and deliveries.
- Vision Zero
  - o Formal resolution and announcement will be delayed.
  - o VZ advance projects will be identified in next month.
  - Received proposals for HSIP grant preparation.
- Complete Streets RFP to be released around April 3.

### **Parking**

- MMB front office staff (4) on rotating schedules between working from home and in the office
  to limit in-person staffing to 1-2 people per day, answering phones and emails for TE & PU
  public counter.
- Taking requests from businesses for temp loading zones/curbside pickup, processing permits, monthly permit account management and suspending accounts by customer request, etc.
   Other MMB and Sayle Street Office staff working from home.
- Field staff continuing to work with safety protocols. Cleaning garages, maintenance, temporary signage postings, garage help-line coverage etc.
- Working on plan so equipment (radios, vehicles, phones, etc.) do not have to be shared.
- Suspension of on-street parking meter fees (Sunday and Holiday schedule)
- Garages are on fully automated operations (Parking Access Revenue Control System) with 24-7
  help-line call coverage; Parking Cashiers are on paid administrative leave when not scheduled to
  assist with other essential functions (they are on list for staffing resources and have been
  assigned to help with Clerk's Office).
- Wilson Street garage still planned for opening in June.
- Annual Garage Maintenance Public Works contract going to bid on schedule for construction summer through early fall.

### **Metro Transit**

- Ridership currently 4-8,000/day when typical ridership is 40-57,000/day
- Running a Saturday plus commuter schedule. Discussing possible targeted service for hospital. May look at further reduction of service.
- Rider and Driver protections:
  - Reducing capacity on buses to only 15 people including the driver
  - o Restricting passengers to only boarding/exiting the bus through the rear door
  - Suspending fare collection (to minimize contact with driver at front of the bus)

- Reducing service to Saturday schedules with select commuter routes also operating.
   This significantly reduces the number of drivers out on the street.
- Scheduling buses so that no more than 1 driver is driving a particular bus in any given day and allowing for cleaning after each use.
- o Redeploying drivers to assist with cleaning and wiping down buses with disinfectant.
- Fogging or wiping down all assigned buses every night so that drivers are getting into a cleaned bus each day.
- Placing portable bathrooms at transfer points and the square. (Note this issue needs a longer term resolution)
- o Reduced schedule, 4 day work weeks averaging 32-38 hours/week.
- o Extra 2-weeks of leave
- Providing transportation from Beacon and Salvation Army to various hotels for people experiencing homelessness that are considered high risk.
- Will be providing transport to temporary overnight shelter at Warner Park. Will transport approximately 100 to 140 single men twice per day.
- Submitting on two grants. 5339b for articulated buses and dedicated running way, one (VW) for regular bus procurement. 5339b grant deadline extended by one month.
- Oscar Mayer activities continue, but at a slower pace.

# **Transportation Group**

- Route Structure RFP released. Submittal deadline extended 2 weeks.
- 5339b grant letters of support.
- BRT contract with AECOM essentially ready for signatures.
- Working with Metro, Parking, and TE on current issues (service reduction, work from home, protocols, Oscar Mayer, etc.).