

# City of Detroit

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

W. L. Currie  
City Clerk

Vernon C. Allen  
Deputy City Clerk

## Departmental Reference Communication

November 1, 1995

TO: THE DEPARTMENT OR COMMISSION LISTED BELOW  
FROM: THE CITY CLERK

The following petitions are herewith referred to you for report and recommendation to the City Council.

In accordance with that body's directive, kindly return same with your report in duplicate within the usual time limit.

/ P&DD / DPW CITY ENGINEERS / CPC /

1758 - BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN requesting vacation of streets and encroachment over utility easements at their Fort/St. Antoine Street addition/expansion. (with large maps)

*a. m...*

*City Eng*

# City of Detroit

CITY COUNCIL

Maryann Mahaffey  
President

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Gil Hill  
President Pro Tem

RECEIVED  
CITY ENGINEERING OFFICE  
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

Clyde Cleveland  
Sheila M. Cockrel  
Kay Everett  
Nicholas Hood, III  
Mel Ravitz  
Brenda M. Scott  
Alberta Tinsley-Williams

November 16, 1995

Ms. Gloria Robinson, Director  
Planning & Development Dept.

✓ Mr. Clyde Dowell, Director  
Public Works Dept./City Engineering Div.

Ms. Marsha Bruhn, Director  
City Council's Planning Commission

RE: Petition of Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan (Proposed  
Downtown Detroit Expansion) (#1758), for various street and  
alley vacations and encroachments, etc., in area of Fort,  
St. Antoine, and Lafayette Streets.

On November 15, 1995, the Downtown Development Authority's report  
relative to this item, which gave a favorable recommendation for  
Petitioner's requests, was listed on Council's Daily Calendar.  
At that time, Council requested that this matter be held until  
the City Planning Commission, Planning & Development and Public  
Works Depts' reports are received pertaining to petitioner's  
request.

It is respectfully requested that your respective departments  
respond to same as soon as possible. A copy of the complete  
petition file is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jackie L. Currie cjs.*

Jackie L. Currie  
Detroit City Clerk

JLC/MP/cjs

cc: Mayor Dennis Archer  
Deputy Mayor Nettie Seabrooks  
Mr. Michael Sarafa, Exec. Asst. to the Mayor

Jackie L. Currie, City Clerk

200 City-County Building • Detroit, Michigan 48226  
224-3266



Steven C. Hess  
Vice President and  
General Counsel

600 Lafayette East  
Detroit, Michigan 48226-2998  
Phone (313) 225-8505  
Fax (313) 225-6702

*Handwritten:* 422  
DRW 05  
C

**October 18, 1995**

31 11 95 100 05

**City Council  
City of Detroit  
1340 City-County Building  
One Woodward Avenue  
Detroit, MI 48226**

--CITY CLERK--

**RE: Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan  
FORT/ST. ANTOINE ADDITION  
SV&A Project No: 9500500**

**Dear City Council:**

**We hereby petition the Common Council of the City of Detroit to make the following vacations as shown on the attached plan:**

- **The vacation of St. Antoine Street from the south side of Lafayette Street to the south side of Fort Street (contiguous to the already vacated St. Antoine Street from Fort Street to Congress).**

**It is requested that the utilities remain in place and that a maintenance easement be installed.**

**It is further requested that an encroachment over the utility easement be authorized for a bridge connecting the properties on either side and for encroachment by the office building. The permitted encroachment should extend from elevation 133.00 FT (refer to attached drawing for related benchmark) to elevation 200.00 FT for the entire length of the vacated street.**

- The vacation of Fort Street from the east side of Beaubien Street to the west side of St. Antoine Street.

It is requested that the utilities remain in place and that a maintenance easement be installed.

It is further requested that an encroachment over the utility easement be authorized for construction of a parking structure over vacated Fort Street. The permitted encroachment should extend from elevation 133.00 FT to 200.00 FT for the entire length of the vacated street.

- The vacation of the alley parallel to and between Lafayette Street and Fort Street from the east side of Beaubien Street to the west side of St. Antoine Street.

#### Supporting Information

The purpose of this petition is to facilitate the construction of an addition to the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan tower on the east side of St. Antoine. The new addition will be an office building of 170,000 SF with adjacent parking for 500 cars. The new addition will consolidate the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan presence in downtown Detroit.

The proposed new addition is shown on the accompanying site plan, floor plans, sections and elevations.

#### City of Detroit and Downtown Development Authority Property

The property to be developed is owned by the City of Detroit and the Downtown Development Authority. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan have been formally designated as developer of the property and are in negotiation with the City of Detroit and the Downtown Development Authority for purchase of the property.

Letters of authorization from the City of Detroit and the Downtown Development Authority authorizing Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan to act on their behalf regarding the petition to vacate the streets and the alley are appended as Exhibits 'A' and 'B'.

**Detroit Cornice and Slate Building**

The Detroit Cornice and Slate Building, a property on the national registry of historic properties, is located in the northeast corner of the property bounded by St. Antoine, Lafayette, First and Beaubien.

A letter of support for the vacation of the streets and alley is provided from the owner of the Detroit Cornice and Slate Building. This is appended as Exhibit 'C'.

**Detroit Transportation Corporation Property**

The remaining property in the block bounded by St. Antoine, Lafayette, First and Beaubien is owned by the Detroit Transportation Corporation in connection with the DPM station at Beaubien. This petition is supported by the Detroit Transportation Corporation.

A letter of support for the petition from the Detroit Transportation Corporation is appended as Exhibit 'D'.

We request that the above petition be granted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Hess", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Steven C. Hess

SCH/mas