



CITY OF DETROIT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CITY ENGINEERING DIVISION

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January 28, 2019

Honorable City Council:

**RE: Petition No. 1664 — Stephanie Polk request to vacate an alley located in the area of John C. Lodge & Midland between Alden & Parkside.**

Petition No. 1664 — Stephanie Polk requesting the vacation and conversion to easement of the north-south alley, 15 feet wide, in the block of John C. Lodge Expressway northbound service drive, Midland Avenue, 50 feet wide, Parkside Avenue, 50 feet wide, and Alden Avenue, 50 feet wide.

The petition was referred to the City Engineering Division – DPW for investigation (utility review) and report. This is our report.

The request is being made to prevent illegal activity and to allow the residents to fence off the unused alley.

The request was approved by the Solid Waste Division – DPW, and Traffic Engineering Division – DPW, and City Engineering - DPW.

Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) has no objection to the conversion to easement. The specific DWSD provisions for easements are included in the resolution.

All other involved City Departments, and privately owned utility companies have reported no objections to the conversion of the public right-of-way into a private easement for public utilities. Provisions protecting utility installations are part of the attached resolution.

I am recommending adoption of the attached resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Doherty, P.E., City Engineer  
City Engineering Division – DPW

/JK

Cc: Ron Brundidge, Director, DPW  
Mayor's Office – City Council Liaison

BY COUNCIL MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLVED**, that all of the north-south alley, 15 feet wide, in the block of John C. Lodge Expressway northbound service drive, Midland Avenue, 50 feet wide, Parkside Avenue, 50 feet wide, and Alden Avenue, 50 feet wide. Further described as: land in the City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan being the north-south alley lying easterly of and adjoining the easterly line of Lots 361 through 370, both inclusive, and lying westerly of and adjoining the westerly line of Lots 391 through 400, both inclusive "Ford Plains Subdivision of part of Lots 6 & 7, Harper Tract in S.W. ¼ of Section 15, T.1S.,R.11E. Greenfield Township, Wayne County, Michigan" as recorded in Liber 35, Page 39 of Plats, Wayne County Records; also lying easterly of and adjoining the easterly line of all of Lot 169 and part of Lot 170 being the north 2.8 feet on the west line and being the north 2.6 feet on the east line thereof, and lying westerly of and adjoining the westerly line of all of Lot 186 and part of Lot 185 being the north 3.2 feet on the west line and being the north 3.0 feet on the east line thereof "B. H. Wark's Detroit Homes Subdivision of the S 1/2 of Lot 7 Harper Tract in the S.W. ¼ of Section 15, T.1s,R.11E. City of Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan" as recorded in Liber 44 Page 15 of Plats, Wayne County Records.

Be and the same is hereby vacated as a public right-of-way and converted into a private easement for public utilities of the full width of the right-of-way, which easement shall be subject to the following covenants and agreements, uses, reservations and regulations, which shall be observed by the owners of the lots abutting on said right-of-way and by their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, forever to wit:

First, said owners hereby grant to and for the use of the public an easement or right-of-way over said vacated public alley herein above described for the purposes of maintaining, installing, repairing, removing, or replacing public utilities such as water mains, sewers, gas lines or mains, telephone, electric light conduits or poles or things usually placed or installed in a public right-of-way in the City of Detroit, with the right to ingress and egress at any time to and over said easement for the purpose above set forth,

Second, said utility easement or right-of-way in and over said vacated alley herein above described shall be forever accessible to the maintenance and inspection forces of the utility companies, or those specifically authorized by them, for the purpose of inspecting, installing, maintaining, repairing, removing, or replacing any sewer, conduit, water main, gas line or main, telephone or light pole or any utility facility placed or installed in the utility easement or right-of-way. The utility companies shall have the right to cross or use the driveways and yards of the adjoining properties for ingress and egress at any time to and over said utility easement with any necessary equipment to perform the above mentioned task, with the understanding that the utility companies shall use due care in such crossing or use, and that any property damaged by the utility companies, other than that specifically prohibited by this resolution, shall be restored to a satisfactory condition,

Third, said owners for their heirs and assigns further agree that no buildings or structures of any nature whatsoever including, but not limited to, concrete slabs or driveways, retaining or partition walls (except necessary line fences or gates), shall be built or placed upon said easement, nor change of surface grade made, without prior approval of the City Engineering Division – DPW,

Fourth, that if the owners of any lots abutting on said vacated alley shall request the removal and/or relocation of any existing poles or other utilities in said easement; such owners shall pay all costs incidental to such removal and/or relocation, unless such charges are waived by the utility owners,

Fifth, that if any utility located in said property shall break or be damaged as a result of any action on the part of said owners or assigns (by way of illustration but not limitation) such as storage of excessive weights of materials or construction not in accordance with Section 3, mentioned above, then in such event said owners or assigns shall be liable for all costs incidental to the repair of such broken or damaged utility; and

Provided, that the petitioner maintain Fire Department vehicle access to all buildings, structures, fire hydrants, and fire department connections, and further

Provided, that the property owners maintain DTE Energy access to their facilities at all times, and further

Provided, that an easement, the full width of the existing right-of-way, is reserved for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department for the purpose of installing, maintaining, repairing, removing, or replacing any sewers, water mains, fire hydrants and appurtenances, with the right of ingress and egress at any time to, and over said easement for the purpose above set forth; and be it further

Provided, that free and easy access to the sewers, water mains, fire hydrants and appurtenances within the easement is required for Detroit Water and Sewerage Department equipment, including the use of backhoes, bull dozers, cranes or pipe trucks, and other heavy construction equipment, as necessary for the alteration or repair of the sewer or water main facilities; and be it further

Provided, that the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department retains the right to install suitable permanent main location guide post over its water mains at reasonable intervals and at points deflection; and be it further

Provided, that said owners of the adjoining property, for themselves, their heirs and assigns, agree that no building or structure of any nature whatsoever, including porches, patios, balconies, etc., shall be built upon or over said easement, or that no grade changes or storage of materials shall be made within said easement without prior written approval and agreement with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department; and be it further

Provided, that if any time in the future, the owners of any lots abutting on said vacated alley shall request the removal and/or relocation of the aforementioned utilities in said easement, such owners shall pay all costs incidental to such removal and/or relocation. It is further provided that if sewers, water mains, and/or appurtenances in said easement shall break or be damaged as a result of any action on the part of the owner, or assigns, then in such event, the owner or assigns shall be liable for all costs incidental to the repair of such broken or damaged sewers and water mains, and shall also be liable for all claims for damages resulting from his action; and be it further

Provided, that if it becomes necessary to remove any of the paved alley returns at the entrance (into Midland Avenue, or John C. Lodge NB Service Drive) such removal and construction of new curb and sidewalk shall be done under city permit and inspection according to City Engineering Division – DPW specifications with all costs borne by the abutting owner(s), their heir or assigns; and further

Provided, that the City Clerk shall within 30 days record a certified copy of this resolution with the Wayne County Register of Deeds.

PETITION NO. 1664  
 STEFANIE POLK  
 15489 ALDEN AVE.  
 DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48238  
 PHONE NO. 313 461-5759



**MIDLAND AVE. 50 FT. WD.**

100M

**PARKSIDE AVE. 50 FT. WD.**

**ALDEN AVE. 50 FT. WD.**

33.90	370	33.73	104.03	33.54
30			104.16	30
"	368		104.28	"
"			393	"
"			104.39	"
"	366		104.51	"
"			395	"
"			104.62	"
"	364		104.74	"
"			397	"
"			104.85	"
"	362		104.97	"
"			399	"
30	361	100	105.08	30
34	169	100	400	34
		100	105.20	100
		100	102.20	100
		100	186	34

102.40

**JOHN C. LODGE EXPRESSWAY**



- VACATE TO EASEMENT

(FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

CARTO 25 D

B					
A					
DESCRIPTION					
REVISIONS					
DRWN	CHKD	APPD	DATE		
DRAWN BY			CHECKED		
DATE			APPROVED		
08-01-17					

**REQUEST TO VACATE TO EASEMENT  
 THE NORTH/SOUTH PUBLIC ALLEY, 15 FT. WD.  
 IN THE BLOCK BOUND BY  
 PARKSIDE, MIDLAND, ALDEN AVE.  
 AND JOHN C. LODGE FWY.**

**CITY OF DETROIT  
 CITY ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
 SURVEY BUREAU**

JOB NO. 01-01  
 DRWG. NO. X 1664