

Summary of intent for RESOLUTION #6-R-22

RESOLUTION #6-R-22 calls for the immediate addition of a “Revitalization of Soldier's Square” project to the 5-year CIP and asks that the City move with reasonable speed to initiate an RFP process, once resolution is approved.

It does NOT identify nor request any specific sources of funding for the project.

RESOLUTION #6-R-22 Adding the Revitalization of Soldier's Square project to the 5-year CIP

Submitted By: Alderperson Schultz – District 9, Alderperson Del Toro – District 4

Date: April 20, 2022

Referred To: Municipal Services Committee

WHEREAS; Resolution #5-R-19, passed by Common Council in January of 2020, called for the City of Appleton to commit to an effort to revitalize Soldier's Square and recapture the former function of the hallowed space without prohibiting any future ancillary development and without unduly impacting present parking and traffic movement in the Square; and

WHEREAS; The passage of that resolution also approved the restoration delay and potential relocation of the Spanish-American War Memorial, currently in Pierce Park, in any foreseeable future redevelopment plans of Soldier's Square, as well as affording the opportunity to have more recent conflicts memorialized without any direct cost to the City of Appleton, and

WHEREAS; the City approved and partially completed the full restoration of the Civil War memorial in Soldier's Square in 2021, with the scheduled completion in 2022, and has acquired and possesses, in partnership with Sculpture Valley, replacement cannon and an original USS Maine plaque, essential components of a full restoration of the Spanish American War Memorial; and

WHEREAS; the recovery of the previously occupied space by the former parking structure has now visually separated the utilitarian garbage and recycle enclosure from the new YMACA ramp, visually positioning it and an island the heart of newly adjusted and recovered space of Soldier's Square, and

WHEREAS; an evaluation of the Soldier's Square area with City staff and stakeholders in late 2021 initiated conversations about potential improvements to the layout to create a partially revitalized Soldier's Square which might affect only a bare minimum number of exiting parking stalls while allowing for the relocation of the Spanish-American War memorial; and

WHEREAS; Soldier's Square, was meant to provide a place of solace and contemplation, where our memorials could be appreciated for their aesthetic and symbolic value beyond their intrinsic commemorative purpose, and complement the mission of the civic spaces in which they reside by connecting us and causing us to reflect on something larger than ourselves;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED;

That “Soldier's Square”, for the purposes of this Resolution, shall be defined as that portion of right of way approximately 80' by 365' in size, bounded by the following: South of College Avenue, West of Morrison Street, North of Lawrence Street, and East of Oneida Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED;

That the City of Appleton immediately add the “Revitalization of Soldiers Square” project to the 5YR CIP and move with reasonable speed to initiate the RFP process to begin the design phase for revitalizing Soldier's Square.