



Terence J. Ryan  
Parking Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Eileen M. Donoghue, City Manager *EMD*

FROM: Terry Ryan, Parking Director

DATE: April 21, 2020

SUBJECT: COUNCIL MOTION OF 4/14/2020 BY COUNCILOR MERCIER  
REQUEST CITY MANAGER Handicap Parking, Appleton Mills

Under M.G.L, people with a legal handicapped placard are allowed to park at any on-street parking space free of charge with no time limit imposed. Additionally, handicapped spaces cannot be assigned to any one particular person or reserved in any way. Within the City's five garages, there are currently 301 customers who pay the "Disabled Downton Resident Fee" at a current monthly cost of \$37.00 (approx. \$1.25/day).

Based on the lack of handicapped parking spaces around the Appleton Mills complex and the increased development in the area, the residents have requested they be allowed to park at the UML 110 Canal parking lot and then have "first access to the handicapped spaces" in the new HCID garage. I have reached out to UML and received approval for fifteen spaces dedicated to handicapped residents of Appleton Mills for a short term, until the HCID Garage opens. Spaces would be managed by the City of Lowell Parking Department and would be issued after an application and valid handicapped placard is submitted and processed. Availability of these spaces would end with the opening of the HCID Garage.

When the HCID garage opens, there will be 20 handicapped-designated spaces (17 car, 3 van) located adjacent to the elevators on each covered floor. Handicapped parking spaces, as current practice, in all City garages, cannot be allocated or reserved for particular person or vehicle and it is the opinion of the Parking Dept. that this remain the policy at the HCID Garage. Allowing for designated or reserved spaces in one garage would have to be applied universally to the other garages.

The City Transportation Engineer has determined that five Handicapped Parking Spaces could be added to the one current space on Canal St to help in a small way. See attached map, with the new proposed spaces highlighted in red.

It would be the opinion of the Parking Department that a sixty day trial be executed on the five additional handicapped spaces on Canal St., residents be allowed to park at 110 Canal Lot for the short term at no charge, and once open, provided the opportunity to park at the HCID Garage billed at the current Disabled Downtown Resident fee. Residents also have immediate access to the Early Garage.



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Current handicapped spaces in Blue.

Proposed new handicapped spaces in Red.

Terry Ryan  
Parking Director

cc: Diane N. Tradd, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director  
Natasha Vance, PE, Traffic Engineer.