



Department of City Development
City Plan Commission
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee
Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation

Lafayette L. Crump
Commissioner

Vanessa L. Koster
Deputy Commissioner

8th Ald. District
Ald. Zamarripa

CITY PLAN COMMISSION PUBLIC WAY VACATION REPORT

File No. [230329](#)

**Public Way Proposed
to be Vacated:**

This resolution vacates the west leg of the east-west alley in the block bound by West Burnham Street, West Rogers Street, South 23rd Street and South 24th Street, as indicated on the map included in this file as “Exhibit A”.

Applicant:

This vacation was initiated by Common Council Resolution File Number [230328](#), on behalf of the Milwaukee School Board of Directors (“MPS”).

**Reason for
Vacation:**

The proposed vacation is needed to facilitate the establishment of a pedestrian mall in South 24th Street.

This file is a companion file to Common Council Ordinance File Number [231134](#), which establishes a pedestrian mall in South 24th Street between West Legion Street and West Rogers Street. The alley proposed to be vacated connects to the proposed pedestrian mall and will have limited utility once motor vehicle traffic is restricted from the pedestrian mall. These two files may be heard together.

**Summary of
DPW Report:**

The Department of Public Works has no objections to this vacation provided that the petitioner bears all associated DPW costs.

MPS has agreed to undertake much of the work described in the coordinated report with their own contractor, at no cost to the City, including the construction of a new catch basin at the east limits of the vacation and removal of the existing alley approach. As such, no deposit is required for these items.

MPS will submit a payment of \$2,925.00 to City. \$600 is to cover the cost of one sewer easement and \$2,325.00 to cover benefit assessments that will accrue to the abutting properties as a result of the vacation.

Staff

Recommendation:

The proposed vacation will facilitate the creation of a new pedestrian mall, envisioned as a new public space to benefit the surrounding neighborhood. The

overall pedestrian mall project will include new public amenities including a soccer field, public seating and enhanced landscaping. The project advances the recommendations of the 2022 Gathering Spaces Feasibility Study to “repurpose Public Streets and Rights of Way as Gathering Spaces”, which was an element of the City’s Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.

The pedestrian mall and alley vacation will have minimal impacts to traffic circulation on the surrounding street grid, and arrangements have been made to maintain access to the only property with existing access off the segment of alley proposed to be vacated.

For these reasons, staff suggests that the City Plan Commission recommends approval of the subject file.