

Downtown Development Authority of City of Madison Heights

Memorandum

Date: August 3, 2022
To: Downtown Development Authority Board Members
From: Giles Tucker, Community & Economic Development Director
Subject: Holiday Decorations & Electric Costs

Holiday Decorations

During the holiday season last year the DDA discussed the possibility of bringing holiday decorations back to the downtown. In the past the City would put up holiday decorations along John R Rd, but with budget constraints has not done so in many years. Today the DPS has two semi-truck trailers full of Holiday décor that with some cleaning and refurbishment could be used in the DDA area. On July 28th Sean and I took a look at these decorations and they appear to be in good condition. It is likely that these decorations will need replacement bulbs and possibly some rewiring. While I was not able to get an exact count of each decoration, it appears that we could put a decoration on every DDA light pole if desired. We will not have a firm cost for refurbishing until DPS brings out all of the decorations for cleaning and repair in October-November, but Sean from DPS estimated we should add in \$500 or so for these kind of repairs. Within this FY budget we have allocated \$5000 for holiday decorations, so we should have plenty of funds available to make necessary repairs.

Electricity

At the beginning of each November DTE emails communities asking them how many posts they will need electricity for during the holiday season. We will have a firm electricity cost per pole then, but based off what I have learned from Sean and from Debra from DTE we can expect a cost of around \$12.50 per pole, per month so about \$37.50 in electricity per pole. If we were to light 106 poles, this is \$3,975. While it is possible that the total of \$5000 could cover both the refurbishing of the decorations and cover electricity, it is certainly something that we think about.

Staff Recommended Action:

The DDA board has already authorized up to \$5000 in total costs for holiday decorations within the budgeting process earlier this year. The amount of holiday decorations we install will impact the costs for refurbishing as well as how much we spend on electricity. Staff is asking the DDA board aside from this total cost limit of \$5000 is there a limit to the amount of these funds should go to electric costs?









