

Montgomery MEDC
AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: October 17, 2022	Budgeted Amount:
Department:	Prepared By:

Subject

Discussion on future participation in a project at 213 Prairie Street to increase downtown public parking.

Recommendation

Consider the project and provide direction on whether the MEDC would consider participating in the project.

Discussion

As you are aware, the City recently purchased 213 Prairie Street in the historic downtown. While initially intended as a future police station location, other ideas have also been considered for how to utilize the building and property. I am currently gathering information for City Council to review that will provide a plan for taking a comprehensive look at facility planning and property utilization for the City. Without getting ahead of those efforts, adding in-fill parking on city-owned property is an opportunity to make significant progress in improving downtown parking needs. Ideally, this project would increase the chances of creating public/private parking solutions by demonstrating to downtown property owners and merchants that the City is committed to that effort.

In recent years, a parking lot formerly leased by the City was sold to a private owner. The result was a loss of approximately 25 parking spaces that were available for public use. This infill parking project at 213 Prairie Street would add approximately 25 parking spaces. As shown in the attached excerpt from the adopted 2021 Downtown Master Plan, parking is identified in the Short-Term (1-3 year) goals. Additionally, the Site Analysis identified the lack of public parking as a constraint to the redevelopment of downtown.

As the MEDC currently leads the McCown St. redesign project, identifying potential projects that increase access to public parking should be at the forefront of our objectives. Project funding could be allocated from the budget line item 400-40-46107 City Capital Projects, which has \$200,000 in available funds.

A conceptual sketch of the proposed project is attached for reference.

Approved By

		Date:
Interim City Administrator	Dave McCorquodale	Date: 10/13/2022