

# Staff Report

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To: Mayor Treece, City Council, and City Manager Glascock

From: Nickie Davis

Date: August 22, 2020

Re: Curbside Pickup Pilot Program

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In cooperation with the City Parking staff, The District CID has found these curbside pickup spots overwhelmingly beneficial to our businesses downtown. 88% of businesses surveyed say they have and are being utilized. 82% of businesses feel the 10-minute limit is the correct amount of time for these spots, and almost 72% are satisfied to extremely satisfied with how our curbside program is working. Only one business surveyed said they made a complaint to The District office and was corrected in a timely manner. Other comments that came out of this survey:

- We are incredibly grateful for these spots. They allow us to reach our customers in a time of complication and financial struggle. This small measure is indescribably important. Many in town are reluctant to come downtown in normal circumstances due to parking and crowds, these spots have shown that Columbia is invested in her people and local businesses.
- There should be more. Wabash station's parking spots should be curbside or free until this is over.
- I think they will become more important to customers as we transition into colder weather.
- Essential to the exact high-risk demographic we are trying to protect!
- If we would not have it, we would bankrupt already.

## **CID Recommendations:**

The CID staff would strongly recommend an extension of this pilot program. In light of the most recent Health Department order, curbside pickup is one of the most significant modes of revenue for our businesses in The District. To remove this program would be detrimental to our local businesses and economy. We would like to see this continue through the Holiday season to be re-evaluated in January. Thank you for your consideration.