



The District • Downtown Community Improvement District
 11 S. Tenth Street • Columbia, Missouri 65201 • (573) 442-6816
discoverthedistrict.com

March 16, 2018

Mayor and City Council
 City of Columbia
 701 East Broadway
 Columbia, MO 65205

Re: Support for City Acquisition of 912 East Walnut for Solid Waste Compactor

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

The Downtown CID would like to provide support for the City's purchase of 912 East Walnut. This site would be utilized to place a highly needed trash compactor, a fiber compactor and recycling location conveniently in the heart of downtown. The property is ideally located near many restaurants and retailers, providing convenient access for solid waste services to our stakeholders. In addition, the compactors would improve the existing poor conditions of overflowing dumpsters, which are visible to our customers and distract from a positive downtown experience.

While we support the overall property purchase, we are concerned about a likely rate increase to the Downtown Solid Waste District, and are not in favor of the demolition of the historic building on the front of the lot. We therefore propose that the existing building facing Walnut Street be retained, and either sold to another buyer or leased by the City. The historic building offers income potential and maintains the streetscape along Walnut.

The solid waste compactor location will take approximately 50% of the lot adjacent to the alley; therefore we ask that the potential 2020 rate increase be adjusted to offset only the part of the purchase that will be used for the solid waste location. That would be based on the lesser of 50% of the purchase price, or a percentage equal to the amount of the lot that is used for the solid waste district.

We appreciate your support of this request to improve the overall environment and cleanliness of our downtown.

Sincerely,

Katie Essing
 Executive Director, Downtown Community Improvement District

Cc: Mike Matthes, Dave Sorrell, Steve Hunt

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