



Planning, Streets and Traffic Committee

Monday, April 24, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

City Service Center – 915 Quarrier Street – Conference Room

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Unfinished Business

3. New Business

Resolution No. 783-23 - A Resolution adopting the protection of the brick pavement on portions of Valley Road, Chester Road, Maple Road, Springdale Road, Poplar Road, Somerset Drive, Pine Road, and several alleyways within the City of Charleston.

4. Discussion

Requests for lowering speed limits

5. Approval of the Minutes of the February 27, 2023, meeting

6. Adjournment

Resolution No. 783-23

Introduced in Council:

Adopted by Council:

April 3, 2023

Introduced by:

Referred to:

Emmett Pepper and Jeanine Faegre

Planning, Streets and Traffic

1 Resolution No. 783-23 - A Resolution adopting the protection of the brick pavement on portions
2 of Valley Road, Chester Road, Maple Road, Springdale Road, Poplar Road, Somerset Drive, Pine
3 Road, and several alleyways within the City of Charleston.

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5 WHEREAS, Mordicai Levi of Charleston, West Virginia constructed the first brick paved street in
6 the United States on Summers Street in downtown Charleston between 1870-1873; and

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8 WHEREAS, on April 23, 1889, Mordicai Levi of Charleston, West Virginia was granted the first
9 patent (#401,52) by the United States Patent Office for the process of constructing brick
10 pavement in the United States; and

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12 WHEREAS, the brick paved streets located within the City of Charleston are therefore of special
13 historical significance; and

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15 WHEREAS, there are only a limited number of brick paved streets remaining within the City of
16 Charleston; and

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18 WHEREAS, brick streets help define the historic nature of neighborhoods and improve property
19 values; and

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21 WHEREAS, brick streets help maintain slower driving speeds in residential areas; and

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23 WHEREAS, brick streets last longer and have long-term cost benefits compared to asphalt or
24 cement-paved streets; and

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26 WHEREAS, brick streets can be pervious, allowing groundwater replenishment, reducing runoff
27 pollution, and the decreasing the likelihood of flooding events; and

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29 WHEREAS, Valley Road was constructed around 1915 using brick pavers; and

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31 WHEREAS, a number of the brick pavers in Charleston were manufactured by brickyards that no
32 longer exist such as Athens Block, Trimble Brick Manufacturing, South Webster Block, Nelsonville

1 Block, and Middleport Block, and are no longer available; and

2
3 WHEREAS, in 2003, the City of Charleston, in concert with Valley Road residents, repaired a
4 significant portion of the brick pavers on Valley Road, which had been damaged by flooding and
5 prior utility repairs, resulting in the complete restoration of the street; and

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7 WHEREAS, paving brick streets forever damages the historic nature of the brick pavement located
8 there; and

9
10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the existing brick pavement streets of Charleston be
11 preserved and that any portion disturbed for whatever reason be replaced in a manner consistent
12 with the original construction of brick pavers.