



Memorandum

To: Members of Council
From: Laura Englehart, Director of Economic Development
cc: Mayor David E. Weiss
Chief Administrative Officer Jeri E. Chaikin
Date: July 22, 2020
Re: Clean and Safe Program in the Van Aken District – Authorization to enter into a contract with RMS Investments, or its affiliate

Since September 2018, a Clean and Safe Program has been operating in the Van Aken District pursuant to a contract between RMS and Downtown Cleveland Alliance (DCA). The program is currently financed by RMS, the City, Tower East, and University Hospitals Health System (UHHS). The existing agreement between the City and RMS to jointly fund this program ends on August 18, 2020. This is a request to Council to authorize a new contract between the City and RMS for August 2020 to August 2021 at a cost of \$34,095.30 to the City. On July 8, 2020, the Neighborhood Revitalization and Development Committee recommended approval. On July 20, the Finance Committee recommended approval. The funds are available in the 2020 Economic Development operating budget to pay the City's share of the program cost.

The Clean and Safe Program currently provides “clean” services including trash removal, power washing, and weeding, and “safe” services such as enhancing the sense of safety, visibility, safety escorts, and responding to unusual activity. The program operates from 7am to 12am (midnight), seven days a week. A service area map is attached. A statistical summary of the services provided in calendar year 2019 is also attached.

RMS has indicated that they are very satisfied with DCA's services and costs. Upon review of the services and data provided by DCA, the City and RMS agree that the same results and goals of the program can continue to be met while removing overlapping shifts and reducing costs. DCA Ambassadors would still provide the same services, cover the same footprint, and work during the same hours, but their shifts would no longer overlap. The program has already been operating under these non-peak, non-overlapping hours this summer with no change to the level of services provided (even with the new outdoor spaces created and extra cleaning due to COVID-19). The overall cost reduction results in a decrease of \$10,463.80 for the City based on last year's allocation.

To fund the program for the next year, each participating entity will contribute funds based on number of employees or land area owned. At a total contract price of \$121,768.92 for 2020-2021, RMS has committed to fund at least 55% or \$66,972.91, and the City would fund 28% or \$34,095.30. RMS will fund the remaining balance from other property owners in the district.

On July 8, 2020, the Neighborhood Revitalization and Development Committee recommended to Council that the program should be reauthorized as presented. There was discussion about whether

the contract price remains fixed; for example, additional deep cleaning needs during the public health emergency could create added costs. Because the vast majority of the contract price pays for labor, more frequent cleaning during existing shifts will not add cost, but more significant deep cleaning would likely be outside the scope of the contract. Additional discussion included whether another mandated closure of businesses could reduce costs. Reducing costs would require a reduction in hours, which would mean ambassadors are no longer present at certain times. If this were desirable and able to be done while maintaining sufficient services, the City's costs would remain 28% of any reduced contract price. Finally, a question was posed as to whether ambassadors could assist with reminding patrons to wear masks when required by law or regulations. City staff has already made this request to RMS, and it was received favorably.

On July 20, 2020, the Finance Committee also recommended approval. There was some discussion about the district boundaries and the BP station. The Clean and Safe ambassadors provide services in all public areas within the district boundaries, including surrounding the BP station but not on the private property.

The Economic Development Department requests that Council authorize a new Clean and Safe contract between the City and RMS for August 2020 to August 2021 at a cost of \$34,095.30 to the City. The funds are available in the 2020 Economic Development operating budget to pay the City's share of the program cost.

It is requested that this ordinance be passed on first reading and as an emergency so that RMS can enter into the second year contract with DCA as the current contract year will expire on August 18, 2020.

EXHIBIT A - SERVICE AREA



Only safety services extend into privately owned parking garages and lots

Statistics

January 2019 through December 2019

		JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
Business Contact	'19	1004	1021	1006	973	807	854	901	957	703	610	534	600	9970
Graffiti - Removed	'19	--	3	--	4	3	7	4	1	2	1	--	6	31
Gum Spots Removed	'19	99	95	161	128	68	27	--	--	--	13	3	9	603
Hazardous Waste Clean-up (human)	'19	1	--	4	2	1	--	2	2	--	--	--	--	12
Hazardous Waste Clean-up (pet)	'19	--	--	--	2	2	8	1	7	2	2	--	--	24
Hospitality Assistance	'19	225	211	205	174	224	304	316	263	172	98	101	97	2390
Panhandling - Aggressive	'19	1	1	2	3	2	6	1	4	1	3	5	--	29
Panhandling - Passive	'19	2	--	--	8	1	2	--	--	7	3	--	2	25
Request Assist - Safety Ambassador	'19	--	--	1	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	2
Request for Police / Fire / EMS / Assistance	'19	--	--	1	--	--	--	2	--	--	--	--	--	3
Safety Escorts	'19	11	17	26	28	46	74	23	4	15	28	4	1	277
Security Check	'19	1	22	160	226	226	246	226	232	152	130	108	125	1854
Snow Removal (hours)	'19	1	5	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	14	21
Started Pipe Tour	'19	148	143	126	114	88	84	66	56	42	36	48	43	994
Trash (lbs)	'19	625	825	1450	1230	1775	1475	2101	1927	1628	2051	1627	2175	18889
Weed Abatement (block faces)	'19	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	1

ORDINANCE NO.
BY:

Authorizing a personal services contract with RMS Investments for the period August 2020 through August 2021, for the Van Aken District Clean and Safe Program in an amount not-to-exceed \$34,095.30, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the City and RMS Investments agreed to jointly sponsor the Clean and Safe Program in the Van Aken District for a one year period, beginning in the fall of 2018 to coincide with the opening of the Van Aken Development, in order to enhance the revitalization and vibrancy of the District;

WHEREAS, the City first entered into a contract for the Program with RMS for the period September 2018 through August 2019, and RMS contracted with the Downtown Cleveland Alliance to provide the services under the Program, and that contract between the City and RMS was renewed for the period of August 2019 to August 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City and RMS desire to enter into a new contract for the period of August 2020 to August 2021, and RMS will once again contract with the Downtown Cleveland Alliance to provide the services under the Program; and

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Director of Economic Development that the City enter into a contract with RMS Investments for the period of one year, from August 2020 to August 2021, in an amount not-to-exceed THIRTY-FOUR THOUSAND NINETY-FIVE AND 30/100 DOLLARS (\$34,095.30) for the City's share of the cost of the Van Aken District Clean and Safe Program; and

WHEREAS, Section 141.03 of the Codified Ordinances of Shaker Heights authorizes Council, pursuant to the Charter of the City, to approve the expenditure of funds in an amount greater than \$25,000 without formal competitive bidding for personal services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Shaker Heights, State of Ohio:

Section 1. This council hereby authorizes the Mayor to enter into a personal services contract with RMS Investments for one year, from August 2020 to August 2021, for the Van Aken District Clean and Safe Program, in an amount not-to-exceed THIRTY-FOUR THOUSAND NINETY-FIVE AND 30/100 DOLLARS (\$34,095.30). Said contract shall be in the form as approved by the Director of Law.

Section 2. This ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare for the reason that it is necessary in the current operation of the City as the current contract will be expiring shortly, and, therefore, this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its enactment and approval by the Mayor.

Enacted

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2020.

DAVID E. WEISS, MAYOR

Attest:

JERI E. CHAIKIN
Clerk of Council

Coun20/0727RMSInvestmentsclean&safe