

Report – Planning and Transportation Committee

Annual On-Street Parking Accounts 2021/22 and Related Funding of Highway Improvements and Schemes

To be presented on Thursday, 27th April 2023

*To the Right Honourable The Lord Mayor, Aldermen and Commons
of the City of London in Common Council assembled.*

SUMMARY

The City of London Corporation, in common with other London authorities, is required to report to the Mayor for London on action taken in respect of any deficit or surplus in its On-Street Parking Account for a particular financial year.

The purpose of this report is to inform Members that:

- the surplus arising from on-street parking activities in 2021/22 was £10.699m;
- a total of £6.172m was applied in 2021/22 to fund approved projects; and
- the surplus remaining on the On-Street Parking Reserve at 31st March 2022 was £51.652m, which will be wholly allocated towards the funding of various highway improvements and other projects over the medium term.

RECOMMENDATION

That Members note the contents of the report and approve its submission to the Mayor of London.

MAIN REPORT

Background

1. Section 55(3A) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), requires the City of London, in common with other London authorities (i.e. other London Borough Councils and Transport for London), to report to the Mayor for London on action taken in respect of any deficit or surplus in their On-Street Parking Account for a particular financial year.
2. Legislation provides that any surplus not applied in the financial year may be carried forward. If it is not to be carried forward, it may be applied by the City for one or more of the following purposes:
 - a) making good to the City Fund any deficit charged to that Fund in the four years immediately preceding the financial year in question;

- b) meeting all or any part of the cost of the provision and maintenance by the City of off-street parking accommodation whether in the open or under cover;
 - c) the making to other local authorities, or to other persons, of contributions towards the cost of the provision and maintenance by them, in the area of the local authority or elsewhere, of off-street parking accommodation whether in the open or under cover;
 - d) if it appears to the City that the provision in the City of further off-street parking accommodation is for the time being unnecessary or undesirable, for the following purposes, namely:
 - meeting costs incurred, whether by the City or by some other person, in the provision or operation of, or of facilities for, public passenger transport services;
 - the purposes of a highway or road improvement project in the City;
 - meeting the costs incurred by the City in respect of the maintenance of roads at the public expense; and
 - for an “environmental improvement” in the City.
 - e) meeting all or any part of the cost of the doing by the City in its area of anything which facilitates the implementation of the Mayor’s Transport Strategy, being specified in that strategy as a purpose for which a surplus can be applied; and
 - f) making contributions to other authorities, i.e. the other London Borough Councils and Transport for London, towards the cost of their doing things upon which the City in its area could incur expenditure upon under (a)-(e) above.
3. In the various tables of this report, figures in brackets indicate expenditure, reductions in income or increased expenditure.

2021/22 Outturn

4. The overall financial position for the On-Street Parking Reserve in 2021/22 is summarised below:

| | £m |
|--|---------------|
| Surplus Balance brought forward at 1st April 2021 | 47.125 |
| Surplus arising during 2021/22 | 10.699 |
| Expenditure financed during the year | (6.172) |
| Funds remaining at 31st March 2022, wholly allocated towards funding future projects | 51.652 |

5. Total expenditure of £6.172m in 2021/22 was financed from the On-Street Parking Reserve, covering the following approved projects:

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Revenue/SRP Expenditure: | £000 |
| Highway Resurfacing, Maintenance & Enhancements | (2,029) |
| Barbican Podium Waterproofing - Phase 2 | (744) |
| Off-Street Car Parking Contribution from Reserves | (688) |
| Concessionary Fares & Taxi Card Scheme | (442) |
| West Smithfield Area Public Realm & Transportation | (286) |
| Climate Action Strategy – Pedestrian Priority | (171) |
| Bank Junction Improvements (All Change at Bank) | (120) |
| City Streets COVID 19 – Phase 3 | (92) |
| St Paul's Gyratory | (63) |
| Climate Action Strategy – Cool Streets & Greening | (53) |
| Cleaning Maintenance Lord Mayors Show | (46) |
| Aldgate Maintenance for Open Spaces | (40) |
| COVID Response | (25) |
| Dominant House Footbridge – Future Options | (19) |
| Special Needs Transport | (11) |
| City Wayfinding Signage/Legible London | (11) |
| Minorities Car Park – Structural Building Report | (6) |
| London Wall Car Park Waterproofing and Repairs | (2) |
| Traffic Enforcement CCTV | (1) |
| Total Revenue/SRP Expenditure | (4,849) |
| Capital Expenditure: | |
| Baynard House Fire Safety | (621) |
| Bank Junction Improvements (All Change at Bank) | (411) |
| Climate Action Strategy – Pedestrian Priority | (138) |
| City Wayfinding Signage/Legible London | (77) |
| Bank Junction Interim Safety Scheme | (22) |
| Holborn Viaduct & Snow Hill Pipe-Subways | (15) |
| Street Lighting Project/Strategy | (13) |
| HVM Security Programme | (13) |
| Climate Action Strategy – Cool Streets & Greening | (12) |
| Traffic Enforcement CCTV | (1) |
| Total Capital Expenditure | (1,323) |
| Total Expenditure Funded in 2021/22 | (6,172) |

6. The surplus on the On-Street Parking Reserve brought forward from 2020/21 was £47.125m. After expenditure of £6.172m funded in 2021/22, a surplus balance of £4.527m was carried forward to future years to give a closing balance at 31st March 2022 of £51.652m.
7. Currently total expenditure of some £97.8m is planned over the medium term from 2022/23 until 2026/27 (as detailed in Table 1), by which time it is anticipated that the existing surplus plus those estimated for future years will be fully utilised.
8. The total programme covers numerous major capital schemes including funding towards the Barbican Podium Waterproofing; Bank Junction Improvements (All Change at Bank); Climate Action Strategy Cool Streets & Greening and Pedestrian Priority; Holborn Viaduct & Snow Hill Pipe-Subways Repairs;

Baynard House Fire Safety; Traffic Enforcement CCTV; Minorities Car Park Structural Building Report; West Smithfield Area Public Realm & Transportation Project; St Paul's Gyratory; Dominant House Footbridge Repairs; London Wall Car Park Waterproofing, Joint Replacement & Concrete Repairs; Fire Safety at the Car Parks; Lindsey Street Bridge Strengthening; and Beech Street. The progression of each individual scheme is, of course, subject to the City's normal evaluation criteria and Standing Orders.

9. The programme also covers ongoing funding of future revenue projects, the main ones being Highway Resurfacing, Enhancements & Road Maintenance Projects; Concessionary Fares & Taxi Cards; Traffic Review Order; Contributions to the Costs of Off-Street Car Parks; Special Needs Transport; Cleansing Maintenance for the Lord Mayors Show; and Annual Maintenance of Aldgate.
10. In addition to the currently agreed allocations of On-Street Parking surplus monies, a newly formed Priorities Board chaired by the Town Clerk will review all future new eligible bids for surplus funds before recommending successful bids to Members of Resource Allocation Sub Committee for decision. This new mechanism has been designed to ensure surplus monies are allocated to eligible projects in an efficient and speedy process to meet spending priorities.
11. A forecast summary of income and expenditure arising on the On-Street Parking Account and the corresponding contribution from or to the On-Street Parking surplus, over the medium-term financial planning period, is shown below:

| Table 1 On-Street Parking Account Reserve Projections 2021/22 to 2026/27 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | Total |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| | Actual £m | Forecast £m | Forecast £m | Forecast £m | Forecast £m | Forecast £m | £m |
| Income | 14.5 | 13.6 | 12.6 | 13.0 | 13.5 | 13.8 | 81.0 |
| Expenditure (<i>Note 1</i>) | (3.8) | (3.5) | (4.0) | (4.1) | (4.3) | (4.4) | (24.1) |
| Net Surplus arising in year | 10.7 | 10.1 | 8.6 | 8.9 | 9.2 | 9.4 | 56.9 |
| Capital, SRP and Revenue Commitments | (6.2) | (14.3) | (23.7) | (39.5) | (7.7) | (12.6) | (104.0) |
| Net in year contribution (from)/ to surplus | 4.5 | (4.2) | (15.1) | (30.6) | 1.5 | (3.2) | (47.1) |
| (Deficit) / Surplus cfwd at 1 st April | 47.1 | 51.6 | 47.4 | 32.3 | 1.7 | 3.2 | |
| (Deficit) / Surplus cfwd at 31st March | 51.6 | 47.4 | 32.3 | 1.7 | 3.2 | 0.0 | |

Note 1: On-Street operating expenditure relates to direct staffing costs, current enforcement contractor costs, fees & services (covering pay by phone, postage, printing & legal), IT software costs for enforcement systems, provision for bad debts for on-street income and central support recharges.

12. A reduction in income is forecast from 2022/23 onwards for a number of years, mainly due to suspension of enforcement at Beech Street, ongoing long term works and changes to Bank Junction, future projections of motorist's compliance and CCTV enforcement suspension at Throgmorton Street. The suspension at Throgmorton Street is due to a major closure which is expected to continue until February 2024. Further savings from operation and enforcement costs on the new parking contracts awarded from 1st April 2022 have been phased into future expenditure projections.

Conclusion

13. So that the City Corporation can meet its requirements under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), it is requested that the Court of Common Council notes the contents of this report and approves its submission to the Mayor of London.

All of which we submit to the judgement of this Honourable Court.

DATED this 7th day of March 2023.

SIGNED on behalf of the Committee.

Deputy Shravan Joshi
Chair, Planning and Transportation Committee