



**CITY OF CONCORD**  
*New Hampshire's Main Street™*  
**Community Development Department**

## **REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**

**From:** Timothy J. Thompson, AICP, Assistant Director of Community Development

**Date:** August 28, 2024

**Subject:** **Expand the Scope of work for CIP #433 (School Street Parking Garage) for Graffiti Prevention**

### **Recommendation:**

Accept this report and authorize expanding the scope of work in CIP #433 (School Street Parking Garage) for the installation of barriers to deter vandalism at the parking garage. Anticipated cost is \$10,000.

### **Background:**

The School Street Parking Garage was constructed in 1985. It contains 469 parking spaces, of which 201 are metered spaces, 94 are permit spaces, 6 are handicap, 1 is for City's Downtown Maintenance Team's equipment, and 167 are lease spaces associated with long-term agreements associated with adjacent office buildings dating back to 1985. In June 2021, the City completed a \$5.79M repair / renovation project at the facility.

As part of the FY2025 Budget, the sum of \$10,000 was appropriated in CIP #433 (School Street Parking Garage) to fund modifications of parking garage signage associated with ongoing negotiations to transition the 167 long-term lease spaces at the facility to the City's permit system. While significant progress has been made to date, it is unlikely that negotiations with long-term lessees will be finalized before the end of FY 2025.

### **Discussion:**

The City has been experiencing ongoing issues with vandalism at the School Street Garage. Specifically, vandals have been illicitly accessing the roof of an adjacent private office building to spray paint graffiti on the exterior of the garage. In an effort to prevent further occurrences of vandalism, staff has been working with the Public Properties Division of the General Services Department to implement a means to prevent access from the garage to the roof of the adjacent office building.

Working with a local vendor, the Public Properties Division has secured quotes for the fabrication and installation of custom made of metal mesh barriers at limited locations on the east side of the parking garage. The barriers will be painted to match the garage's steel frame.

To finance the proposed barriers, staff recommends repurposing the \$10,000.00 previously approved for CIP 433 / FY2025 for signage modifications for this purpose. The balance of the project will be funded with \$6,660 of surplus funds in CIP #433, which were left over from the aforementioned repair / renovation project.