



April 30, 2007

Ald. Robert J. Bauman
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Special Event Parking Program Will Ease Crunch On Residents, Businesses

The Common Council's Public Safety Committee has approved a pilot program designed to make special event parking restrictions easier to deal with.

Special events such as parades, bicycle races and running events currently have plenty of signs telling people what the parking restrictions are, but the signs typically do not include the date or the time the events start and end, leaving restrictions in place longer than necessary and causing headaches for residents and businesses, said the measure's chief sponsor, Ald. Bob Bauman.

"Hopefully for residents this will take the 'storm' out of the 'Storm the Bastille' run," he said.

Ald. Bauman, chair of the Public Works Committee, said he knows many residents who rely on street parking end up getting their cars towed "because they thought they had an extra hour or two to move it."

The pilot program will require the city to have clear signage citing an event date and the actual time when an event will start and end, so there's no mystery about when cars have to be moved and when they can park legally again afterward, he said.

Ald. Bauman's district includes downtown, the Historic Third Ward and lakefront-adjacent areas that are buzzing with special events during the spring, summer and fall.

The full Council is expected to take up the measure on Tuesday, May 8. **Please see the attached legislative file text for more details.**