

MEMORANDUM

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

TO: City Manager

**SUBJECT: Alley Right-of-Way Vacation Request for North/South Alley East of 38th Street
Between 6th and 7th Avenues**

Date: October 6, 2011

Augustana College has requested that a north/south alley east of 38th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues be vacated (see attached vacation map and letter). Note that the letter requests permission for all but one parcel. Staff discussed the matter with all owners (Augustana College and Dorothy Austin, 610 39th Street) and determined vacating the entire alley made the most sense. The alley currently is a one way northbound public alley.

The College intends to maintain the alley and keep it open for private use for all residents of the block (the college owns all adjacent property to the alley except for 610 39th Street owned by Dorothy Austin). The college has contacted via mailed letter the one remaining property owner (Ms. Austin) and assured her that all residents of the block will have full access to the private alley. The college has also indicated to staff that it may also install speed bumps to reduce vehicle traffic speed in the private alley. If the vacation is approved, the College could install speed bumps; the City does not allow them in public alleys. No structures or parking will be located in the alley.

Analysis of Impact:

Staff contacted the Public Works, Fire and Police Departments for an analysis of the request. There were no objections cited by officials from these departments. However, if the alley is vacated garbage pick-up for residents will be changed to front yard pick-up off 39th Street. Officials from Mid-American Energy, AT&T and Mediacom Cable Company also were contacted. There are overhead electric and telephone lines located within the right-of-way.

Staff contacted Ms. Austin by mail and has spoken with her son (Scott Austin). They understand the need to move refuse collection from the alley to 39th Street and do not object, nor do not object to the vacation as long as access is maintained to the garage on their property. A letter from Sheri Curran, Augustana College's General Counsel is attached.

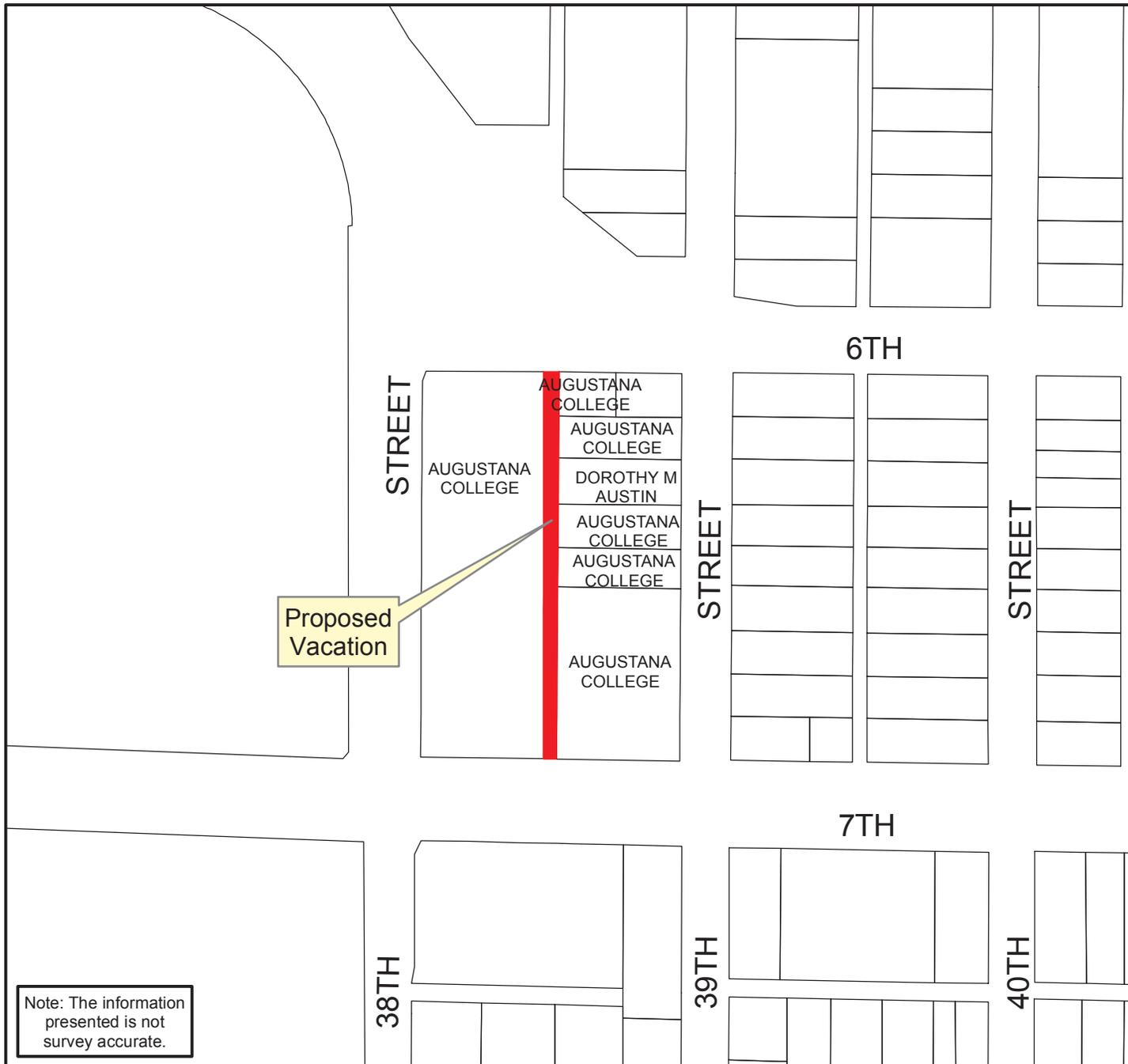
Recommendation:

That the City Attorney be directed to draft an ordinance vacating the north/south alley east of 38th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues.

**Submitted by: Alan Fries, Urban Planner II
Alan M. Carmen, Planning and Redevelopment Administrator
Gregory S. Champagne, Community and Economic Development Director**

Approved: Robert Hawes, Interim City Manager

VACATION LOCATION MAP



Note: The information presented is not survey accurate.

VACATION LOCATION MAP 6 to 7th Ave. & 38 to 39th St.

Legend

-  Parcels
-  Subject Property

DR. BY: K. G. D.
 APPR. BY: A.M.C./A.F.



0 50 100 200 300 Feet

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8/17/11

Augustana College

639 38th Street
Rock Island, Illinois
61201-2296

p 309.794.7278
800.798.8100
f 309.794.3374

www.augustana.edu

Department of Facilities Services

August 15, 2011

Allan Carmen, Planning & Development Administrator
1528 Third Avenue
Rock Island IL 61201

Re: Alley

Mr. Carmen,

This is a letter of request for partial vacation from the City of Rock Island of the alley from 6th avenue to 7th avenue between 38th street and 39th street. The request does not include the alley adjoining the back property line of parcel 2584 which is the only non-Augustana property along that alley. Easements will be established for access to the property from the west.

Purpose of the request is to shift maintenance responsibilities from the City of Rock Island to Augustana College.

Sincerely,



Joseph J. Luntz
Director of Facilities Services

JJL:jmd

October 6, 2011

Dorothy Austin
610 39th Street
Rock Island

Dear Ms. Austin:

I am writing to follow up on my recent letter regarding ownership of the alley behind your home located on 39th Street in Rock Island. This letter is to confirm that in the event the City vacates this alleyway, the College would continue to allow full use of the alleyway to residents of 39th Street.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Sheri L. Curran
General Counsel