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JUSTIFICATION STATEMENT

OFFICE OF PLANNING

Closure of Unimproved 12th Street and High Street Rights-of-Way

Waterfront Development Corporation, in coordination with Louisville Metro Public Works, is requesting the closure of the unimproved 12th Street right-of-way and a portion of the unimproved High Street right-of-way north of Rowan Street. The area of the unimproved rights-of-way to be closed will be directly incorporated into the Waterfront Park Phase IV west park expansion. This integration will enhance the park's amenities, providing additional green spaces, walking paths, and recreational areas that align with the city's vision for vibrant and accessible public spaces.

The proposed right-of-way closures align with the goals and vision outlined in the Plan 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which emphasizes sustainable development, equitable access to resources, and the enhancement of community spaces.

Sustainable Development: The Plan 2040 Comprehensive Plan prioritizes the development of sustainable infrastructure. Closing these unimproved rights of way will allow for the implementation of improved, environmentally friendly infrastructure that supports the city's long-term sustainability goals.

Equitable Access: The comprehensive plan highlights the importance of equitable access to resources and amenities for all residents. The closure and subsequent redevelopment of these rights of way by the Waterfront Development Corporation will ensure that the area is accessible and safe for all community members and will provide additional public amenities and improve access to recreational spaces for underserved communities.

Community Enhancement: The Plan 2040 Comprehensive Plan aims to enhance community spaces and promote the well-being of residents. By closing these unimproved rights-of-way, Waterfront Development Corporation can create new public spaces as part of the Waterfront Park Phase IV expansion. This will contribute to the overall quality of life for residents by providing additional parks, green areas, and recreational facilities.

The comprehensive plan also focuses on improving safety and connectivity within the city. Closing these unimproved rights of way will eliminate potential hazards and create a more connected and cohesive urban environment. The Phase IV expansion of the Waterfront Park will enhance pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, ensuring a safer and more integrated transportation network.

As the proposed rights-of-way to be closed are unimproved and not currently used for access, adequate public facilities are provided and available to serve the existing and future needs of the community.

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