

## <u>OFFICE OF THE MAYOR</u>

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## MEMO

To:Public Works CommitteeCC:Ron GrallFrom:Mayor ReillyDate:April 13, 2021Re:Transit Center Free Parking Request

The Parks, Recreation & Forestry Dept. will host a visit by the nationally traveling, half-sized replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, The Moving Wall, May 27 through May 31, 2021. The Moving Wall has not been to the City of Waukesha since 1998 when Catholic Memorial hosted the visit. The City is honored to be chosen to host the visit following an application process in early 2019.

The event is a large undertaking for the City and a work team comprised of local Veterans, business owners, interested citizens, and City staff have been working since 2019 to make the visit a reality. Originally scheduled to take place over the Memorial Day weekend in 2020, and rescheduled to the 2021 Memorial Day weekend, the event will bring visitors from all over Waukesha County. WPRF is planning a stirring Opening Ceremony during which time the names of the men from the City of Waukesha will be read aloud. Each night after that, all of the names of the men from Waukesha County listed on the memorial will be read aloud and Taps will be played to recognize their ultimate sacrifice for our country. In total, 68 men from Waukesha County lost their lives in service to our country during the Vietnam War.

The Moving Wall will be open for 24 hours each day to allow for public participation and privacy for those who would like to visit The Moving Wall during less busy times. A free shuttle is scheduled to operate to assist the public with easy access to Frame Park during what are expected to be hours of greater attendance. Shuttles will operate between the Waukesha County Courthouse and Frame Park, as well as between the Transit Center and Frame Park. during the following hours: Thursday, May 27, 4:30 to 9:00 p.m.; Friday, May 28, 4:30 to 10:00 p.m.; Saturday, May 29, 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Sunday, May 30, 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 pm; and Monday, May 31, 9:30 am to 5:30 p.m. Parking is free at the Waukesha County Courthouse and I would like to offer free parking at the Transit Center parking lot so as not to overwhelm the County Courthouse parking location.

Please consider the request to waive parking fees at the Transit Center parking lot during the shuttle hours to help alleviate parking issues in the immediate area of Frame Park and assist with providing easier access for many of the older members of the public and Veterans attending the event. In addition, the Transit Center Parking lot will be promoted as a viable parking option to City visitors providing easier access and convenience.

