



July 28, 2023

Jill Castilla, President & CEO  
Direct: (405) 715-5134  
[jcastilla@mycitizens.bank](mailto:jcastilla@mycitizens.bank)

**Via Regular Mail & Email: [Darrell.Davis@edmondok.gov](mailto:Darrell.Davis@edmondok.gov)**

The Hon. Darrell A. Davis, Mayor  
City of Edmond  
24 E. First Street  
PO Box 2970  
Edmond, OK 73083

Re: Downtown Edmond Parking & Street Closures

Dear Mr. Mayor:

I am writing with relation to the start of the City Center Complex construction project in downtown Edmond. While this is an exciting time for our community and represents positive opportunities for City administration and services, there are significant concerns regarding downtown accessibility, which, if unaddressed, will have a negative impact on individuals, downtown businesses and community events in the area.

Parking is the first area of concern. As you know, on October 31, 2022, Citizens Bank of Edmond provided the City with one-year advanced notice of termination regarding the City's lease of the Bank's parking lot on Main Street. The termination was necessary to ensure that Citizens can continue to provide adequate parking for its customers, team members and tenants.

Last week, on July 18, 2023, the Bank received a one-week notice from the City regarding various parking and street closures in downtown taking effect on July 25, 2023. Based upon the Bank's estimate, the City will immediately close or limit access to about 97 public parking spaces. When the lease termination takes effect on October 31, 2023, the number of available spaces will be reduced by another 57, for a total of 154 fewer available spaces. Some of our estimates indicate as many as 179 parking spaces being affected.

The Bank will continue to have adequate parking for its customers and employees during construction, but we are concerned about available parking for the other downtown businesses including the various restaurants and shops. Further, the loss of available parking and closed streets are sure to have a detrimental effect on downtown events such as Heard on Hurd and the annual Arts Festival.

Likewise, the multiple street closures, and especially the closing of a portion of Main Street, for the entire two years of construction is another area of concern. According to the City's July 18<sup>th</sup> notice, access to downtown will be severely limited whether traveling North/South or East/West due to the extended closing of both Littler and Main. Many attendees to Heard on Hurd, as well



mycitizens.bank | 405.341.6650



as food trucks and other vendors, use these roadways to access downtown as well as park during this monthly event.

We would like to meet with you as soon as possible to discuss and address these concerns. Citizens believes there are options available, such as temporary closing of streets only when necessary for specific construction-related efforts, that will help alleviate the strain and potential negative impact this extended project will have on the downtown community.

Thank you for your cooperation and please reach out with your dates of availability so that we may schedule a time to get together soon.

Most sincerely,



Jill Castilla  
President & CEO

Cc: Scot Rigby, City Manager  
Barry Moore, Councilmember  
Christin Mugg, Councilmember  
Tom Robins, Councilmember  
Stacie Peterson, Councilmember  
Sherry Jordan, Edmond Chamber of Commerce  
Stephanie Carel, DEBA