

14-1633
CB 11

MOTION

The City owns an approximately 32,641 square foot site located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Bundy Drive and Missouri Avenue (1900 S. Bundy Dr. and 11950 W. Missouri Ave.). The property is currently vacant, and has been vacant for years, following the closure of the West Los Angeles Animal Shelter at this location. This site is in a prime location to be reused and redeveloped in a way that benefits the community. Whether through adaptive reuse of the existing buildings or through careful redevelopment that is sensitive to the surrounding community, the possibility is there to significantly improve the current conditions on the property.

The property is located approximately ¼ mile from the new Expo/Bundy stop, which is part of the Exposition Transit Corridor Phase 2 expected to begin service in early 2016. When completed, the Expo Line will link Downtown Los Angeles and academic institutions with strong technology programs, like the University of Southern California, to our Westside communities where a growing tech cluster is developing its global identity as "Silicon Beach." This "(T)expo" Line will link multiple under-utilized City properties, like the animal shelter site, to a burgeoning creative and tech industry base. The site's close proximity to the growing creative and tech industry base as well as its proximity to the new Expo/Bundy stop presents a unique opportunity for its reuse as an innovation hub and incubator for the technology community.

This site has the potential to provide much-needed creative space to foster the growth and success of pioneering technology-based companies. It can provide an opportunity for the City to participate in a public-private partnership to create a space where technology entrepreneurs can thrive. Such a public-private partnership can also create opportunities for community education and services that will enable school children, grandparents, and many other community members to bridge the digital divide.

The success of such a proposal requires careful planning and outreach to the surrounding community, as well as carefully structured partnerships. Any reuse of this property, whether for innovation space or otherwise, must be compatible with the neighborhood and sensitive to the needs of the surrounding area. The community must be provided an opportunity to participate in the process. In order to properly manage such a process and fully engage the necessary parties, the City would benefit from working with a qualified nonprofit organization that could provide a wide range of economic and community development services. The first step in this process, however, is to identify this site as a potential location for appropriate economic development.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council direct the Asset Management Strategic Planning Unit of the CAO, in consultation with EWDD, the CLA, GSD, and any other necessary departments, to designate 1900 S. Bundy Dr./11950 W. Missouri Ave. as intended for economic development, purpose, projects, or activities and to report back within 45 days with a recommendation for the appropriate next steps for reuse of the site.

DEC - 2 2014

PRESENTED BY:

MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

ORIGINAL