

MOTION

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

On October 22, 2020, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation (Metro) Board approved the transfer of real property at 4444 Crenshaw Boulevard (Property) to the City for the development of Sankofa Park as part of the Destination Crenshaw Project (Project). The Project is an outdoor museum and placemaking initiative of public art and streetscape design that is a mobility improvement corridor designed to enhance the area between the Hyde Park and Leimert Park Stations of Metro’s Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor Project (CLAX). Sankofa Park is an essential element of the Project and will bridge CLAX with the Project and the art and cultural community of Leimert Park, in furtherance of Metro’s goal to promote community preservation in the communities directly affected by CLAX and facilitate the creation of transit-oriented communities that expand mobility options, promote sustainable urban design, and help transform communities.

The Property includes an approximately 10,755 square foot parcel and all improvements and structures thereon, including a billboard sign erected and operated under a Billboard Lease with CBS Outdoor LLC (subsequently rebranded as “Outfront Media”). As part of the Property transfer agreement with Metro (C-138648), the City assumed the rights and obligations of Metro related to the Billboard Lease and an Interlocutory Judgment executed on May 22, 2014 (Case No. BC510595).

As set forth in the Interlocutory Judgment, Outfront Media is entitled to maintain its billboard on the Property until the City determines that it cannot remain anywhere on the Property due to CLAX or a use related to CLAX, as determined by the City. Additionally, the Interlocutory Judgment stipulates that if the City makes this determination, Outfront Media will have up to 90 days to remove the billboard, and the City must pay \$500,000 as just compensation to Outfront Media within 30 days of them providing written confirmation of removal of the billboard. Project staff has determined that the design and use of Sankofa Park, a future park and performance center that includes streetscape design elements, a raised viewing platform overlooking the CLAX railroad guideway, crosswalks and other features that will provide a strong connectivity between the community and the Leimert Park Station is contingent on the removal of the billboard. Destination Crenshaw, the nonprofit organization that is developing the Project, has agreed to donate the amount of \$500,000.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council:

1. Determine that the billboard located at 4444 Crenshaw Boulevard, owned by Outfront Media (successor to CBS Outdoor LLC), cannot lawfully remain anywhere on the subject property due to Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor Project (CLAX) or a use related to CLAX (specifically the Destination Crenshaw Project and Sankofa Park) and is subject to removal by the owner, per the Interlocutory Judgment executed on May 22, 2014 and assumed by the City on September 15, 2021 (C-139035); and
2. Instruct the General Services Department, in coordination with the City Attorney, to prepare a termination letter and right of entry to Outfront Media to terminate the Billboard Lease and remove the billboard, per the above-mentioned Interlocutory Judgment, subject to the City receiving \$500,000 from the Destination Crenshaw nonprofit for the purpose of paying Outfront Media after their removal of the billboard located at 4444 Crenshaw Boulevard; and
3. Authorize the City Administrative Officer to receive \$500,000 from the Destination Crenshaw nonprofit, deposit said amount to Capital Improvement Expenditure Program Fund No. 100-54, and appropriate/transfer therein to a new account entitled “Sankofa Park Billboard Removal” to pay Outfront Media up to \$500,000 upon presentation of evidence of removal of the billboard located at 4444 Crenshaw Boulevard, per the above-mentioned Interlocutory Judgment.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer be authorized to make any technical corrections to the above instructions in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion, including any corrections and changes to fund or account numbers.

PRESENTED BY:

MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY:

ORIGINAL

msr

JUN 02 2023