

NEW HAVEN CITY PLAN COMMISSION ADVISORY REPORT

RE: 15-17 WINTHROP AVENUE (MBLUs: 312 0143 04300; 312 0143 04400).
Disposition of two adjacent lots to Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven, Inc (NHS). NHS will develop a two-unit residential structure with a minimum owner-occupancy period of ten years. Located in the RM-2 Zoning District. (Submitted by: Evan Trachten, Livable City Initiative)

REPORT: 1605-07
ADVICE: Approve

PROJECT SUMMARY:

Applicant(s): Neighborhood Housing Services of New Haven, Inc
Price: \$2,000.00 (Disposition Price for both lots)
Site: 5,228 square feet
Zone: RM-2
Use: Two-Family Home
Financing:
Subsidy:
City Lead: Evan Trachten
Agency: Livable City Initiative
Phone: 203-946-8373

ORDINANCE

This request comes from the City's Livable City Initiative Bureau (LCI) regarding the disposition of two adjacent vacant City-owned lots. This is in accordance with Section D(8) of the City's Land Disposition Agreement Guidelines, "**The proposal shall be forwarded in the following sequence for further consideration: 1. PAD (approval required); 2. City Plan Commission (advisory review); and 3. LCI Board of Directors (approval required).**" Accordingly, the Planning Commission may provide an advisory report.

BACKGROUND

The City seeks to sell the subject property(ies) for a two-family owner-occupant home with a minimum 10-year occupancy requirement. Essentially, the LCI Board of Directors seeks guidance as to whether this property is or may be needed for municipal purposes.

Planning Commission considerations, whether:

- The property is or should be used for municipal purposes.
- The site is adjacent to a park to create additional park land.
- The property is an interior lot.¹
- The site could be used as a pocket park or community garden.²
- The comprehensive plan identifies or will identify resources within this area for which this parcel could be used.

¹ Interior Lot - "a lot other than a corner lot with only one frontage on a street " (<http://parcelsales.scgov.net/Definitions.aspx>)

² Pocket Park - "A small area accessible to the general public that is often of primarily environmental, rather than recreational, importance. They can be urban, suburban or rural and often feature as part of [urban regeneration](#) schemes in inner-city areas to provide areas where wild-life can establish a foothold." (http://www.wordiq.com/definition/Pocket_park)

PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS:

The proposal will achieve the following Comprehensive Plan Goals:

- Develop land uses that are compatible with the character of the surrounding area.
- **“Continue to use the city’s Land Disposition Agreement (LDA) to advance housing and neighborhood objectives, including appropriate densities, home ownership and contextual design.”** (The City’s Comprehensive Plan) – The City will use this tool to sell the property for home ownership.
- **“Use redevelopment and other tools to address nuisance and deterioration issues, including uses that are deleterious to neighborhoods in general.”** (The City’s Comprehensive Plan) – This is a redevelopment tool to keep property from becoming deleterious to the neighborhood.
- **"Create diverse housing stock suitable for all abilities, ages and incomes."**
- **"Encourage neighborhood stability."**
- **“Increase homeownership rate.”** (The City’s Comprehensive Plan)
- **“Improve housing affordability.”** (The City’s Comprehensive Plan)
- **“Enhance quality of the housing stock.”** (The City’s Comprehensive Plan)
- **“Preserve existing, historic housing stock.”** (The City’s Comprehensive Plan)
- **“Encourage sustainable housing developments.”** (The City’s Comprehensive Plan)
- **“Encourage that adequate rental and homeownership opportunities exist for people of all incomes, especially in transition areas affected by business/infrastructure investments, institutional expansion, and/or changing market trends.”** (The City’s Comprehensive Plan)

ADVICE:

To approve based on this proposal’s alignment with the City’s Comprehensive Plan. The site is not adjacent to a park and there are several community gardens close by.

ADOPTED: April 27, 2022
Leslie Radcliffe
Chair

ATTEST: 

Laura E Brown
Executive Director, City Plan Department