

Next Steps for Casa Loma's North of Austin Terrace Properties: Creating a Public Vision for a Public Heritage Site

Date: June 17, 2022

To: General Government and Licensing Committee

From: City Council

Wards: Ward: 12

CITY COUNCIL DECISION

City Council on June 15 and 16, 2022, referred Motion MM45.25 to the General Government and Licensing Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Mike Layton, recommends that:

1. City Council direct the City Manager to fulfill Part 6 of City Council's Decision on Item 2013.EX35.2, and to report to the General Government and Licensing Committee in the first quarter of 2023.

SUMMARY

Since being selected as the operator of Casa Loma, the Liberty Entertainment Group has unquestionably revitalized the heritage site. However, there is still a need for community consultation to create a vision for the North of Austin Terrace site.

The item at City Council that awarded the Request for Proposal to Liberty in 2013 was EX35.2 - Casa Loma Request for Proposals - Operator for Main House and Grounds. The Staff Recommendations for the item clearly delineated the North of Austin Terrace as a separate entity, intended for a different use and/or operator:

6. City Council request that the Casa Loma Corporation review options for the north portion of the Casa Loma complex, including consideration of issuance of an Request for Expressions of Interest, and in doing so:

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- a. identify a vision and uses for the north portion of the Casa Loma complex;
- b. ensure the vision and uses proposed are complimentary to the heritage, tourism and event uses at the Main House and Grounds;
- c. preclude the sale of City owned lands; and
- d. provide that the review process includes significant community and key stakeholder consultation

In advance of awarding the Request for Proposal for the North of Austin Terrace site in April of 2015, Staff cited a lone public consultation meeting on February 26, 2015 in response to City Council Item IA43.1. This does not meet City Council direction as cited above in Recommendation 6 Executive Committee Item EX32.5 (2013) and ignores Recommendation 8, which obligated Staff to report back to City Council on Recommendation 6 prior to moving forward with a Request for Proposal:

8. City Council direct that Casa Loma Corporation, through the City Manager, report to Council on the review process for the north portion of Casa Loma; and that the City Manager report back on the appropriate future governance structure for the Casa Loma complex no later than the spring of 2015.

In short, the vision for the site was supposed to be set by the community and Council prior to the Request for Proposal being issued. This was not done. That's why this Motion seeks to rectify this error by directing Staff to move forward with the process laid out in 2013 for the North of Austin Terrace Site.