GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (DMPED)

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SURPLUS MEETING: HILL EAST DISTRICT REDEVELOPMENT (PHASE 1) PARCELS F-1 AND G-1

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WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 29, 2014

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The Surplus Meeting was held at St. Coletta of Greater Washington, 1901 Independence Avenue, SE, Washington, D.C., at 6:00 p.m., Ketan Gada, presiding.

PRESENT

KETAN GADA, DMPED, Director, Hill East District Redevelopment AYESHA ABBASI, DMPED ANTON RAMKISSOON, DMPED

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1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	6:17 p.m.
3	MR. GADA: Hello. Good evening,
4	everybody. Let me start by thanking everybody
5	who came out.
6	I know it was a little early for
7	the meeting to start. And also in spite of
8	the weather, you guys came out.
9	I also want to thank not only all
10	the residents, but all the commissioners who
11	are present here from ANC 6B AND 7F.
12	I have Evie Washington 7F
13	representing right now. And I have Brian
14	Flahaven and I want to thank him as a chair of
15	the 6B as well, and I believe a couple of the
16	commissioners are filling in.
17	So, tonight as we said actually
18	before we get in the meeting, but I have a
19	couple of my I'm calling out a couple of my
20	colleagues at the back. Anton is on the left,
21	and Ayesha on the right. They might be able
22	to help us out with some of the questions

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1	especially if it's legislative-related
2	questions.
3	And this meeting is going to be
4	transcribed. We have Matthew here who is
5	going to be transcribing the entire meeting.
6	So, tonight, as we said, on behalf
7	of the Executive Office of the Mayor basically
8	we are holding this meeting so we can
9	basically get feedback and record the comments
10	from the public about the proposed designation
11	of Parcels F-1 and G-1 as surplus property.
12	What that means, surplus process
13	means and what surplus means I'll get into a
14	little bit on that detail, but I want to start
15	off the meeting by giving a little background
16	on the property.
17	And I think you guys probably know
18	it more than I do. So, I'm going to try and
19	be a little quick, but I'll just kind of skim
20	through it just in case just to refresh
21	everybody's memory.
22	So, I'm going to start off with

1	parcels on the entire Hill East reservation,
2	which you guys know used to be known as
3	Reservation 13.
4	It incorporates about 67 acres of
5	site, which includes the jail site, but the
6	Master Plan talks about 50 acres of the site
7	for redevelopment where the red line outlines
8	the proposed redevelopment site for the Hill
9	East.
10	It used to be used as a public
11	health facility back in 1846. It used to have
12	Washington Asylum back in the day. Used to
13	have the quarantine facility on there,
14	crematory and a small officers' bedroom.
15	Since then most of the
16	buildings that you see on there was between
17	1930 and 1940s except for one was Anne
18	Archibald Hall, which is one of the historic
19	buildings.
20	And since then, D.C. General came
21	in, in 1953. D.C. Jail was built in 1936
22	1976, which was actually using the same old

1	jail site which was there back in 1870s.
2	And then subsequently D.C. General
3	closed down, but there are still about 18 or
4	19 structures remaining on the site, give or
5	take. And some of them are underutilized or
6	vacant and they are utilized by some
7	institution uses like Department of Health,
8	Department of Mental Health, DGS, Department
9	of General Services, CSOSA, which is Court
10	Services and Offender Supervision Agency.
11	Emergency shelter and I think Medical Examiner
12	uses some of it as well. So, there are
13	multiple users on this site existing even as
14	we speak today.
15	In 2002, Council approved and gave
16	a green light to Office of Planning to do a
17	Master Plan. A lot of you guys were involved
18	in that master planning effort, which was
19	pretty extensive. It had all the
20	stakeholders, including NCPC.
21	Subsequently they approved the
22	Office of Planning created a Master Plan in

1	
1	2003.
2	They basically came up with a
3	design guideline and the criteria in 2008.
4	And the Zoning Commission approved and
5	accepted the land use zoning that was proposed
6	by the Office of Planning in 2009.
7	And eventually the site was
8	conveyed from U.S. General Services Agency
9	over to D.C. in 2010.
10	So, just to give you a little
11	timeline on how the RFP actually, before we
12	go into that, just to refresh some of the
13	objectives of the Master Plan, again you guys
14	probably know about it, but it's about 50
15	acres of site which is identified as a
16	proposed mixed-use, transit-oriented
17	development.
18	And this Master Plan shows us a
19	land use framework and the plan's vision for
20	each one and is not necessarily a design
21	framework.
22	Some of the people that are

1	connecting the Capitol Hill community to the
2	waterfront are basically extending the network
3	of roads, include the Capitol Hill
4	neighborhood and making it more accessible to
5	the waterfront.
6	Creating a mixed-use and mixed-
7	income community, which would have 30%
8	affordable housing in it.
9	Creating model infrastructure site
10	where basically all the infrastructure is
11	going to be green based on some of the
12	stronger green standards set out by the AWI
13	Act.
14	And lastly, basically providing
15	job opportunities for District residents and
16	businesses.
17	So, those were some of the major
18	goals of the Master Plan for land use and this
19	is what we plan to pursue as well.
20	What we in fact are doing now is
21	we are basically we are taking the first
22	step, which is the Phase 1, and the Master

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1	Plan call for the Phase 1 development of this
2	avenue right here, the Mass. Avenue and the
3	buildings around and the structures around
4	this avenue.
5	We already have them filled out in
6	the corner and then we are now filling out F-1
7	and G-1 and hopefully the whole Mass. Avenue
8	will get extended in time as part of Phase 1.
9	So, we are basically started in
10	working out the Phase 1 part of it which was
11	envisioned in Master Plan.
12	Just to give you a little bit of a
13	timeline on what happened in terms of RFEIs
14	and stuff that was issued on this site, while
15	all that master planning and zoning efforts
16	were happening and all of the planning, Deputy
17	Mayor's Office had issued an RFP on this
18	entire site, this 50-acre site back in 2008.
19	I think March of 2008 and we receive four
20	different development teams who were invested
21	in that back then.
22	That happened to be good timing,

1	but right after that the economy tanked in the
2	fall of 2008.
3	And so, the development teams who
4	were basically in the play, had lost their
5	capacity or capability to kind of come through
6	on the entire 50-acre site.
7	We subsequently issued a number of
8	different baffles to reduce the scale and the
9	scope of the work on RFP to include only two
10	sites or three sites, which included F-1,
11	G-1 and B-1. That's the B-1 site right there.
12	And we received, we eventually
13	received two proposals which actually had
	received two proposars which actuarry had
14	Donatelli as part of that team one of the
14 15	
	Donatelli as part of that team one of the
15	Donatelli as part of that team one of the teams. And that was back in 2010.
15 16	Donatelli as part of that team one of the teams. And that was back in 2010. And that also happened to be an
15 16 17	Donatelli as part of that team one of the teams. And that was back in 2010. And that also happened to be an election year. So, a new administration came
15 16 17 18	Donatelli as part of that team one of the teams. And that was back in 2010. And that also happened to be an election year. So, a new administration came in and I think it was kind of decided not to
15 16 17 18 19	Donatelli as part of that team one of the teams. And that was back in 2010. And that also happened to be an election year. So, a new administration came in and I think it was kind of decided not to go about it.
15 16 17 18 19 20	Donatelli as part of that team one of the teams. And that was back in 2010. And that also happened to be an election year. So, a new administration came in and I think it was kind of decided not to go about it. And subsequently our OAG since a

1	advised us to kind of reissue the RFP so that
2	we don't end up in a legal lawsuit with any of
3	our bidders.
4	We took that advice. We basically
5	restarted the RFP on the two sites and we
6	issued a new RFP in October 2012.
7	We basically received only one
8	proposal. It was from a joint venture by
9	Donatelli Development and Blue Skye
10	Development.
11	And we had a number of different
12	community meetings before we actually went out
13	and asked for a best and final offer from
14	them, which we received in August 2013.
15	And subsequently we selected based
16	on the feedback and the comments we received
17	from ANC, we asked them to go back and write
18	the proposal. They came back with the best
19	and final offer and then we selected the team
20	in September of 2013.
21	So, it's like we've been
22	negotiating the contract with Donatelli and we

1	had to pause for a little bit since they were
2	exploring a better large format retailer for
3	this site.
4	They were at one point in
5	conversation with a grocery store. And the
6	grocery store basically is still not committed
7	at this point, but we wanted to make sure that
8	if there was an opportunity to incorporate
9	that into the proposed development, that would
10	be a great neighborhood amenity.
11	So, we paused for a little bit
12	until the grocery store could basically make
13	up their mind.
14	After a certain point, we decided
15	why don't we just go ahead and do the site as
16	proposed. And if they do choose to come back,
17	then we can deal with that discussion with
18	them.
19	So, this is where we are at right
20	now. We basically are back in the proposed
21	development program that was proposed or
22	that was presented to DMPED in September 2013,

1	which includes a mixed-use program, it
2	includes residential ground floor retail,
3	approximately 354 residential units. 30
4	percent of those units are going to be for
5	at 30 percent AMI and 60 percent AMI brackets.
6	I'm going to last speak more
7	specifically about the site itself. The site
8	is, as you guys know, F-1 and G-1. It's
9	approximately 114,000 square feet.
10	The site is down by 19th Street,
11	Mass. Avenue, Burke Street and C Street, has
12	great visibility access from 19th and Mass.,
13	and is in close proximity to the metro
14	station, the Blue and Orange line.
15	And it is currently does not have
16	any structure on it. There are no building
17	structures on it, which makes it easier for us
18	to kind of start the redevelopment process on
19	these two sides. And that was probably one of
20	the reasons why we started off with that.
21	And it basically allows for 200
22	parking spaces right now. That's the current

1	use of the site.
2	It is being used by DGS,
3	Department of Health and some of the DGS
4	sister agencies who use that site for their
5	employees and the building users.
6	Now, to the part that we are here
7	for, which is the meeting about the surplus.
8	Basically, before the Mayor can redevelop any
9	site, we have to basically take the Council
10	has to approve those parcels as surplus.
11	And what it entails, essentially,
12	what "surplus" means is surplusing essentially
13	says that the parcels are no longer used for
14	public use such as school building in the
15	district or district office building, any of
16	that kind of use.
17	So, for the Council to approve the
18	property as surplus, the Mayor has to present
19	the legislation to the Council. And before
20	the Council receives the legislation from the
21	Mayor, we basically hold this public meeting,
22	which is what we are doing right now, to

1	basically get feedback from the residents and
2	ANC and all the stakeholders, which is about
3	the District's ability to surplus these sites.
4	And this is what we are doing tonight.
5	So, I know it's not a big office.
6	I'm going to open it up to questions right
7	away about surplus, but I want to have a few
8	things I want to kind of call out.
9	A, the whole meeting is, again,
10	transcribed. So, if you can just if you
11	have any comments, I'm going to give you the
12	mic. And if you can come out on this side,
13	because the recorder is very close to the
14	first chair, it will help the transcriber
15	record it.
16	And keep your comments in three
17	minutes or under, if you can. And if you have
18	a lot of comments, please feel free to send an
19	email to me directly and we will basically
20	make sure that it's incorporated in the
21	legislation packet that goes to Council.
22	And once the legislation packet

1	goes to Council, they do have the ability to
2	have another public hearing and approve or
3	disapprove the surplus properties as well.
4	If you don't feel like giving any
5	comments right now, if you want to write it
6	down, that's fine. I have some notepads. You
7	can just write it down. Write down your
8	comments and give it to me and I will make
9	sure it's included in the packet.
10	And that's pretty much it in terms
11	of how we can proceed. But if you have a
12	question about the proposal itself, I would
13	basically suggest using two approaches.
14	We can basically take that
15	question and put it in the comment section of
16	the surplus, or we can conclude this meeting,
17	which is a surplus meeting, and then have
18	open it up for more development-related
19	questions and have the developer in the back
20	sitting as well, and they can address some of
21	the questions that you might have. So, I am
22	pretty flexible with whatever you guys feel is

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1	more convenient.
2	So, with that, I want to just open
3	it up to oh, Ayesha has a couple of
4	comments.
5	MS. ABBASI: Well, I just want to -
6	- can you make sure everybody says their name
7	before they start their comments?
8	MR. GADA: Yes. If you can please
9	state your name and your affiliation so we can
10	have it for the transcriber, please.
11	MR. FLAHAVEN: Thanks, Ketan.
12	Hi, I'm Brian Flahaven. I'm
13	Commissioner for ANC 6B09 and Chair of ANC 6B.
14	These comments are my own. They're not
15	reflective of ANC 6B, but I just want to speak
16	in support of surplus of these two parcels.
17	and obviously a lot of time and
18	effort has been put into the whole community
19	Master Plan and finally seeing this, get to
20	the point where we're starting the
21	development, and obviously we hope we'll be
22	having surplus meetings on the rest of the

1	site, too, as well, but, you know, I think
2	this is a step in the right direction.
3	I, you know, obviously we want to
4	make sure if these parcels are surplused, they
5	are surplused for the purpose that was
6	outlined, which is for the proposal that
7	Donatelli and Blue Skye submitted and were
8	awarded for these two parcels and that any use
9	on these two parcels would be consistent with
10	the Council past in support of Reservation 13
11	Master Plan, which the Donatelli/Blue Skye
12	proposal is.
12 13	proposal is. So, just with those caveats on
13	So, just with those caveats on
13 14	So, just with those caveats on behalf of myself, I would support the
13 14 15	So, just with those caveats on behalf of myself, I would support the surplusing of the property and thank you for
13 14 15 16	So, just with those caveats on behalf of myself, I would support the surplusing of the property and thank you for your for the background and for your work
13 14 15 16 17	So, just with those caveats on behalf of myself, I would support the surplusing of the property and thank you for your for the background and for your work on this.
13 14 15 16 17 18	So, just with those caveats on behalf of myself, I would support the surplusing of the property and thank you for your for the background and for your work on this. MR. GADA: Thank you, Brian.
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	So, just with those caveats on behalf of myself, I would support the surplusing of the property and thank you for your for the background and for your work on this. MR. GADA: Thank you, Brian. Anybody else? Do you want to come
13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	So, just with those caveats on behalf of myself, I would support the surplusing of the property and thank you for your for the background and for your work on this. MR. GADA: Thank you, Brian. Anybody else? Do you want to come up here? Thank you.

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1	process. I just wanted to follow up a little
2	bit on what Brian said and ask does surplusing
3	mandate any particular proposal?
4	Because I think one of the things
5	that the neighborhood has been talking about
6	quite a bit is the Olympic bid and what that
7	might mean for Reservation 13.
8	So, the question basically would
9	be if it's surplus, could it be turned into an
10	alternative use for that or for other possible
11	uses, or is it being surplused just for this
12	bid that Donatelli put in?
13	MR. GADA: That's a good question.
14	So, as far as surplusing is
15	concerned, this is I want to focus only on
16	these two sites and surplus. This is for
17	Parcel F-1 and G-1.
18	To answer simply, the proposal
19	that we have from Donatelli is only the one
20	that is going to be put on this site.
21	The way it works is we typically -
22	- It's very difficult. We typically do

1	surplus process after we have a development
2	selection in place or proposed development
3	plan. It helps people envision what is going
4	to go on that site.
5	Without that, it makes it very
6	difficult for us to surplus the site up front,
7	because then people don't know what's going to
8	be on that site and then other questions.
9	So, what we have done is basically
10	gone through this whole development selection
11	process, we picked a team, they have a great
12	proposal, mixed use. And then the same thing
13	on 6B and 7F have commented on and essentially
14	now we are at the state of surplusing it.
15	So, the next step for us is we
16	will take the surplus packet to Council, which
17	will declare it surplus, approve or
18	disapprove.
19	And then we'll also at the same
20	point have a disposition packet go to Council,
21	which basically will allow for us to offer
22	with Donatelli and Blue Skye with its proposal

1 on this site. 2 Now, the second part about the Olympics, so safely I could say even if that 3 proposal -- and I don't have much knowledge 4 5 about what's going on with that, but this two 6 sites are not going to be available for that 7 use at all. So, I can safely say that. 8 MS. KREPP: My name is Denise 9 I'm a neighbor. First, one request Krepp. 10 that this PowerPoint presentation be put 11 online so that everybody can see it --12 MR. GADA: Sure. 13 MS. KREPP: -- so we don't have to 14 take photos, which they're going to start 15 doing. 16 MR. GADA: Sure. 17 MS. KREPP: We would like to see 18 that over the next couple of days. 19 Second, I want to follow up on 20 that question you just asked. When you said 21 that you have picked a developer, have you 2.2 signed the contract, or could there be

1	modifications to the selection such that when
2	you are preparing the legislation, the
3	selection could be modified to include
4	references to the Olympics?
5	And I've got a couple more after
6	that.
7	MR. GADA: I will take one at a
8	time.
9	The simple answer is, no, we are
10	not going to modify this presentation to
11	include any Olympics information on that.
12	So, we are going to basically go
13	with this proposal and that's pretty much it.
14	MS. KREPP: Okay. All right. Then
15	let me ask a process question.
16	When you say "we are not going to
17	modify it," I am interpreting "we" to mean the
18	Mayor.
19	MR. GADA: Yes.
20	MS. KREPP: But does that preclude
21	the City Council from recommending amendments
22	to the selection such that this plan could be

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1	modified to include the Olympics?
2	MR. GADA: City Council, we cannot
3	control what they want to amend it for. To my
4	knowledge, I think it would be very hard for
5	them to kind of do that in vacuum of the plan,
6	I mean without knowing what the Master Plan
7	is.
8	And they are pretty well aware of
9	this proposal right now or at least most of
10	the council members.
11	But could they do it in theory?
12	Yes, they could amend it and they could
13	include it.
14	Is the Mayor proposing that
15	amendment? Absolutely not.
16	MS. KREPP: Okay. But I think what
17	I have heard from at least two neighbors,
18	including myself, is that we, the
19	neighborhood, support the surplusing of this
20	property with the understanding that the Mayor
21	and the city Council vote on legislation that
22	follows through with the proposal that has

1	been put before the residents.
2	If there are amendments depending
3	on what happens in December if Washington,
4	D.C. is selected for the Olympics and there is
5	thought within the City Council and the
6	Mayor's office that they want to make some
7	changes, then it would be highly recommended
8	that they come back and talk to the residents
9	before they try to amend anything in this
10	process.
11	MR. GADA: That's a good point.
12	We'll keep that in mind. And one more comment
13	and that is before the Council approve or
14	disapprove the legislation, they will have to
15	hold a public hearing. So, you will have an
16	opportunity to speak up and basically give the
17	same feedback that you are giving me about not
18	having the fix at that point as well.
19	So, next is Evie. Do you mind
20	coming next to the recorder?
21	MS. WASHINGTON: Hi, my name is
22	Evie Washington. I'm an ANC commissioner for

1	7F01 and I'm speaking for my SMD as well as my
2	ANC at the time since our chairperson is not
3	here.
4	We did discuss at the last meeting
5	a week ago the surplusing of these two sites.
6	And with discussion from the constituents that
7	was there, they all are in favor of the
8	surplus.
9	Probably at some other time, they
10	just want to have updates, but we'll support
11	it and ask to send it.
12	I don't know if the Council
13	want to do the thing different, then they
14	should come back to us.
15	MR. GADA: Sure. Thank you for
16	your comments. And you mentioned timing and
17	I'll give you guys a little idea about the
18	timing that we are trying to follow.
19	
	We are hoping to take this
20	We are hoping to take this legislative packet to Council for the December
20 21	

1	And we'll make sure that us and
2	including the development that comes out of
3	the ANC meetings at least in the near future
4	in the next month or two, kind of give you
5	guys an update on the proposal itself. So,
6	you guys are basically just to refresh your
7	memory. Nothing else.
8	Any other comments? And if don't
9	want to give me comments right now, you can
10	email it to me. My contact information is at
11	the back.
12	The comment section will be open
13	for public until November 10. So, feel free
14	to email me your comments. If you have
15	comments right now, put it in writing. And if
16	there's any other way you want to send it,
17	that the first that had not still be not line of
18	that's fine, too, but we will be sending we
	will be collecting comments for the record.
19	
19 20	will be collecting comments for the record.
	will be collecting comments for the record. MS. COURTNEY: Are we doing
20	will be collecting comments for the record. MS. COURTNEY: Are we doing

1	MS. COURTNEY: Yes.
2	MR. GADA: So, if there are no
3	additional comments on the surplus side of it,
4	I see Commissioner Francis walked in. I'll
5	give him a minute to settle in.
6	But if there are no additional
7	comments on the surplus side of it, I want to
8	close this meeting out on the surplus and open
9	it up for development-related questions, if
10	you have any questions about that.
11	And I have two team members from
12	the development side as well. So, they can
13	maybe address any questions that you might
14	have directly.
15	So, Matthew, just pause for right
16	now, and then we can restart if people have
17	comments after this session. Thank you.
18	(Whereupon, the above-entitled
19	matter went off the record at 6:39 p.m.)
20	
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### CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the foregoing transcript

In the matter of: Surplus Meeting: Hill East District

Before: Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning

Date: 10-29-14

Place: Washington, DC

was duly recorded and accurately transcribed under my direction; further, that said transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

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