

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: April 28, 2014

TO: Supervisor Patricia Jursik, Chair, Economic & Community Development Committee

FROM: Teig Whaley-Smith, Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services

SUBJECT: Downtown Transit Center Update (File 14-9)

**REQUEST**

There is no request at this time; this report is for informational purposes only.

**BACKGROUND**

At the April 15, 2013 ECD Committee meeting a request was made that Economic Development staff ("ED Staff") prepare a monthly written report on the Status of Negotiations with Barrett Visionary Development ("BVD"), using resolution 12-633 as a guidepost ("Resolution"). The text of the resolution is repeated below in italics, with the respective update below.

- 1. Develop a plan to incorporate the components of the Park East Redevelopment Compact (PERC) into the development agreement in order to provide additional sustainable community benefits that includes disadvantaged business opportunities and verified best faith efforts to employ Milwaukee County racial minorities and women in the project.*

In the last month, ED Staff has met frequently with BVD to move negotiations forward. BVD was successful in meeting similar workforce goals in its previous projects and intends to do the same on this project.

- 2. Identify or develop an element of public attraction within the proposed development and ensure the project does not compete with public use facilities near the site.*

Current plans include public access across Lincoln Memorial Drive, public access throughout the elevated first floor, public parking and other public attractions that do not compete with public use facilities near the site.

- 3. Advise the Committee on Economic and Community Development on the appraised value of the site with the understanding that the County Board expects to receive fair market value for the property.*

ED staff has received an appraisal. The appraisal, together with demolition, environmental remediation, other cost estimates, and public benefits negotiated will be used to establish a purchase price.

4. *Work with the Parks Director and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to determine if any portion of the development site is in conflict with the lakebed public trust doctrine.*

The State of Wisconsin has specified that the development site and other applicable sites west of the 1913 line are "not part of the lake bed of Lake Michigan" (Wis. Stats. Sec. 30.2038).

5. *Prepare written reports for each monthly meeting of the Committee on Economic and Community Development on the status of the negotiations with Barrett Visionary Development with the understanding that the committee may, at its discretion, direct that a Request for Proposal (RFP) process be initiated if negotiations do not progress.*

This report is designed to meet this requirement.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

There is no recommendation at this time; this report is for informational purposes only.



---

Teig Whaley-Smith  
Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services

cc: Chris Abele, County Executive  
Marina Dimitrijevic, County Board Chairwoman  
Economic and Community Development Committee Members  
Don Tyler, Director, Department of Administrative Services  
Amber Moreen, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive  
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors  
Raisa Koltun, Director of Legislative Affairs, County Executive's Office  
Julie Esch, Director of Operations, DAS  
Jill Suurmeyer, Research Analyst, Comptroller's Office