

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Elizabeth Chaumette  
**Date Submitted:** 08/06/2022 08:09 AM  
**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing on behalf of friends who live adjacent to the unimproved lot in question, Council File Number 20-1482 -- and as a property owner in Los Angeles County facing similar issues with vacated/unused lots. The City's decision here, can have positive or negative repercussions for homeowners and all residents in LA County. This lot has been an unimproved dedicated street for over 100 years. The City has vacated the street and for as long as I my friends have lived there (20 years) has never had a designated function, nor has LA City maintained the lot for over the 15 years since I've been visiting on Crestmont. My friends, and their neighbors, have been maintaining this lot, keeping it from unhealthy overgrowth and maintaining its viability. It is also my understanding that owners maintain the storm water flow from the hillside above, the sidewalks, and the sewer easement down the length of the lot. Also the lot and any future improvements like an ADU, cannot be sold separately. There are also limitations on what can be built on top of the sewer easement. Please note that Maltman Ave acts as a storm water system for the watershed drainage for much of the hillside above it and portions of Crestmont Ave on the east and west. I believe that it is unfair that the property owners are burdened with the maintenance, landscaping and cleaning. They, not the City of LA, have paid for all the recent clearing and tree trimming. Amazingly, Grace Ishitani who lived on the east property personally weeded the lot by hand for 60 years to the age of 95. It is unimaginable that the adjacent property owners have been subjected to potential fines and citations. In the last two years, especially, it has been a huge burden having homeless individuals and loitering just outside their windows, these encampments. It is my hope that the City will revisit this issue, if not for a green space, parceling the lot in question to the homeowners who have been maintaining it for all these years. Sometimes, development is not the answer, and in this case I believe selling the lot to developers is a slap in the face to the community of homeowners living adjacent and in the surrounding area - parceling out the lot to those who have cared for, and in many ways, preserved the lot, is not only good politics, but absolutely, the right thing to do. Sincerely, Elizabeth Chaumette

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Francois Renaud

**Date Submitted:** 08/06/2022 08:10 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

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