

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 08/06/2022 10:45 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 previous property owner for multiple years on Effie St. in Los Angeles County facing similar issues with vacated/unused lots. 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. 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 which is time consuming and costly. It is unimaginable that the adjacent property owners have been subjected to potential fines and citations. This part of Effie St that connects to the lower part of the lot is notorious for late night meetings of strangers and the continual clearing of overgrowth has allowed less opportunities for these persons to gather inconspicuously. In the last two years, especially, it has also been a huge burden having homeless individuals loitering just outside their windows and establishing their encampments which by default do not have a sanitary infrastructure. In my opinion it is a constructive way forward for the City to vacate the lot in question to the homeowners who have been maintaining it for all these years. The adjacent owners are not 'Developers' they are residents and community members and can be trusted to steward this land. Sincerely, Orpheo McCord