

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to the purchase of eight parcels from Watts Station, LP c/o Thomas Safran & Associates, in order to expand the Watts Cultural Crescent.

Recommendations for Council action, pursuant to Motion (McOsker – Hutt):

1. DIRECT the Department of General Services, with the assistance of the City Attorney, City Administrative Officer (CAO), and Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), to negotiate an agreement to purchase the following eight parcels, designated by Assessor's Parcel Number (APN), from Watts Station, LP c/o Thomas Safran & Associates, in order to expand the Watts Cultural Crescent:
  - a. 6065-022-006
  - b. 6065-022-007
  - c. 6065-022-008
  - d. 6065-023-002
  - e. 6065-023-003
  - f. 6065-023-004
  - g. 6065-023-009
  - h. 6065-023-010
2. DIRECT the CAO to identify funding, including any potential grant funding, that could be used to acquire the above properties.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the CAO nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On October 8, 2024, your Committee considered a Motion (McOsker - Hutt) relative to the purchase of eight parcels from Watts Station, LP c/o Thomas Safran & Associates, in order to expand the Watts Cultural Crescent. According to the Motion, the Watts Cultural Crescent is a partially developed ten-acre crescent-shaped green space that connects the historic Watts Station to the world-famous Watts Towers. The Cultural Crescent historically served as the central hub of Watts and connected the community to the region. The Crescent is also the geographic center of Watts. The local community has been seeking ways to expand the existing Watts Cultural Crescent in order to connect it to the

Watts Towers campus as well as to create more public space that captures the area's cultural, historical and community significance. The ownership of a number of lots in the Cultural Crescent, including the historic train station, has signaled a willingness to sell properties within the footprint of the Cultural Crescent to the City. This is an opportunity for the City to complete this public asset, and staff should be directed to negotiate with the seller on a potential purchase. After consideration and having provided an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to recommend approval of the Motion. This matter is now submitted to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Government Operations Committee

**COUNCILMEMBER VOTE**

PADILLA: YES

HERNANDEZ: YES

HUTT: YES

ARL

10/8/24

CD 15

**-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-**