

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Ronald

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 04:11 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** It is not true that this is an unused area. That lot had a sort of stairway that connected parts of Maltman. My dog and I frequently went down that "stairway" to get to Sunset Blvd and Farmer's market. On the other side of that lot was a sort of walkway and I remember seeing other people walking there. The property is owned by its 2 adjacent neighbors who can acquire total control once the easement has been vacated. That is a nice gift by city LA to some of its residents. At the same time this is completely counter to the vaunted idea of a "walkable neighborhood". It is reminiscent of the illegal privatization decades ago of several "public" stairways in Silverlake.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kathleen Mahoney

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 04:28 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** As a long term community member, resident and homeowner, I strongly oppose the vacation of Maltman (CF: 20-1482). We need green space and pedestrian access for the health of our community. This segment of the public right-of-way is a valued walkable access to and from the hills above Sunset, a rare element of public greenspace, and a unique example of how not every street in Los Angeles must be car-centered. 7,740 square feet of public land should not be handed over to private interests

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 04:38 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose the vacation of Matlman (CF: 20-1482). We need green space and pedestrian access for the health of our community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Darryl Kitagawa

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 10:02 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** August 5, 2022 Councilmembers Re: Council File 20-1482 - Vacation E1401386, Maltman Ave, between Effie Street and Golden Gate Ave. The community flyer distributed in the neighborhood, stating this as a land give away for private development is a misnomer and a bit disingenuous. There are two adjacent properties not one as the flyer inferred, thereby vilifying the property owner on one side only. The lot in question is an unimproved dedicated street and has been for the past 100 years. If the City vacated the street and does not have another City function designated, allocated and budgeted, the property owners on both sides of the lot enjoin their existing property to the center line of the lot. Each adjacent property owner's lot is widened by approximately 25 ft. This would be true on any of our properties where we own to the center of the street, with public right of way on the surface for sidewalks and street, if the City vacated the street or alleyway as may be the case. As terms of the vacation the property owners must maintain the surface street drain water flow from above, the sidewalks, and the sewer easement down the length of the lot. Also, the lot and any future improvements such as 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 surface street drain water system for the watershed drainage for much of the hillside above it and portions of Crestmont Ave on the east and west. The property owners are burdened with the maintenance, landscaping, and cleaning. They have paid for all the recent clearing and tree trimming. Grace Ishitani who lived on the east property personally weeded the lot by hand for 60 years to the age of 95. The City has done nothing to maintain the "street". The adjacent property owners have been subjected to potential fines and citations. It has been a tremendous burden with people hanging out outside of the two houses, literally below their windows. I have been part of the conversation to find a green space function of the lot for 30 years and this has been going in circles since Councilmembers Ferraro, LaBonge, Garcetti and O'Farrell. I have met with the offices and attended meetings. It has gone nowhere. Until there is a dedication for another function, a budget for the green space, and a responsible City department designated for the maintenance, it will remain a pipe dream. I understand the wish for more green

space in a city starved for local parks and support the enthusiasm of the community to request it. I have little confidence that will happen in the next 50 years. I have been part of that conversation and the community is entitled to restart that conversation again. But in the end, there is no relief for the Ishitani-Ito family who have lived there for nearly 80 years (the current children are the 5th generation in the house), or the Roe family on the west adjacent property who have been there 20 years, from the physical and financial burden of maintaining the unimproved street. Sincerely, Darryl Kitagawa 3523 Crestmont Ave. Los Angeles CA 90026

August 5, 2022

Councilmembers

Re: Council File 20-1482 - Vacation E1401386,  
Maltman Ave, between Effie Street and Golden Gate Ave.

The community flyer distributed in the neighborhood, stating this as a land give away for private development is a misnomer and a bit disingenuous. There are two adjacent properties not one as the flyer inferred, thereby vilifying the property owner on one side only.

The lot in question is an unimproved dedicated street and has been for the past 100 years. If the City vacated the street and does not have another City function designated, allocated and budgeted, the property owners on both sides of the lot enjoin their existing property to the center line of the lot. Each adjacent property owner's lot is widened by approximately 25 ft.

This would be true on any of our properties where we own to the center of the street, with public right of way on the surface for sidewalks and street, if the City vacated the street or alleyway as may be the case.

As terms of the vacation the property owners must maintain the surface street drain water flow from above, the sidewalks, and the sewer easement down the length of the lot. Also, the lot and any future improvements such as 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 surface street drain water system for the watershed drainage for much of the hillside above it and portions of Crestmont Ave on the east and west.

The property owners are burdened with the maintenance, landscaping, and cleaning. They have paid for all the recent clearing and tree trimming. Grace Ishitani who lived on the east property personally weeded the lot by hand for 60 years to the age of 95. The City has done nothing to maintain the "street". The adjacent property owners have been subjected to potential fines and citations. It has been a tremendous burden with people hanging out outside of the two houses, literally below their windows.

I have been part of the conversation to find a green space function of the lot for 30 years and this has been going in circles since Councilmembers Ferraro, LaBonge, Garcetti and O'Farrell. I have met with the offices and attended meetings. It has gone nowhere. Until there is a dedication for another function, a budget for the green space, and a responsible City department designated for the maintenance, it will remain a pipe dream.

I understand the wish for more green space in a city starved for local parks and support the enthusiasm of the community to request it. I have little confidence that will happen in the next 50 years. I have been part of that conversation and the community is entitled to restart that conversation again.

But in the end, there is no relief for the Ishitani-Ito family who have lived there for nearly 80 years (the current children are the 5th generation in the house), or the Roe family on the west adjacent property who have been there 20 years, from the physical and financial burden of maintaining the unimproved street.

Sincerely,  
Darryl Kitagawa  
3523 Crestmont Ave. Los Angeles CA 90026

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Julie

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 01:36 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please leave the open space parcel at Maltman and Effie untouched. It's one of the last green spaces in the area and a delight to see the natural growth and birds in an ever chaotic neighborhood. I have lived around the corner for over 30 years and I walk my dogs there daily. Thank you for listening to your constituents and not caving to special interests!



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Erin

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 03:07 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose the vacation of Maltman (CF: 20-1482). We need green space and pedestrian access for the health of our community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Alisa Applegate

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 03:11 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** I strongly oppose the vacation of Maltman (CF: 20-1482). We need green space and pedestrian access for the health of our community.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Susan Louise McDonnell

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 03:27 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please save the Maltman greenspace (between Effie and Crestmont). This city council talks constantly about creating pedestrian spaces - well, this is already that and so much more to our neighborhood. The city should not hand over 7800 sq ft of valued public space to private interests. There is a ton of construction of new apartments and conversions of single family homes into apartments in this area. We need this little space of green. This patch is enjoyed by pedestrians who do not wish to drive down the hill to Sunset. It is enjoyed by dog walkers who need a little shade in hot weather. It is enjoyed by natural wildlife. The large trees provide shade and beauty. Please leave it be!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Phyl van Ammers

**Date Submitted:** 08/05/2022 03:35 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1482

**Comments for Public Posting:** I urge the Council to deny the application to vacate the city's easement. Over the years, I've often used this right-of-way and I've seen many other pedestrians using it. In the Silver Lake District, the city effectively gave away the Fargo stairs, the Westerly Terrace stairs, and four city streets to be used by private individuals only. These were illegal gifts of public resources, prohibited by the California State Constitution. Inasmuch as this easement is a valuable public resource, giving this extremely expensive right to land to a private person would be a gift.  
Regards, Phyl van Ammers