

MOTION

In 2018, the city of Los Angeles launched the Adopt-a-Lot Pilot Program (C.F. 18-0630, Rodriguez-Buscaino) in partnership with the Free Lots Angeles Collaborative (FLA), a coalition of non-profit organizations led by Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI) that sought to transform vacant lots into neighborhood resources that support community health and development.

The City launched an 18-month Adopt-A-Lot Pilot Program to promote blight removal and community-benefitting uses of vacant property. The program targeted low-income and park poor communities, and consisted of a master license agreement between the city and KDI for the management of 10 unimproved lots that could then be temporarily “adopted” by local community groups for a period of three, six, or 12 months to be activated into neighborhood resources, such as pocket parks and neighborhood gardens. After the pilot period, the results of community outreach would inform what resources would be necessary to convert the lot into a permanent green space, when appropriate.

The North Hills Adopt-A-Lot site held its grand opening in February of 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the lot closed shortly after, and planned programming took a pause. KDI partnered with the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (LANLT) to relaunch community outreach activities, to gauge community interest, and identify permanent use partners in 2022. Carlos Santana Middle School, located right across from the lot, has come forward as a partner with plans to use the greenspace as an outdoor classroom to teach students about urban gardening and native planting. It is therefore time for the North Hills Adopt-a-Lot site to establish permanency to support this programming.

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust was founded in 2002 to address Los Angeles's park inequities. They specialize in park space development and management, and focus efforts exclusively in communities of color that have little to no access to green space. They are therefore suited to serve as managing partners of the North Hills Lot through an extended lease agreement to manage and maintain the lot as a community green space.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the GSD, with the assistance of the City Attorney, negotiate a non-profit lease agreement, subject to Council approval, with the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust for the operation and maintenance of the Tupper Street community green space located at 15201 Tupper Street, North Hills, CA 91343.

PRESENTED BY:

MONICA RODRIGUEZ

Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY:

DEC 13 2022

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