CITY OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN CITY PLAN COMMISSION REPORT

November 1, 2021

> AGENDA ITEM – 21-1259 (Andrea Trane) (Referred)

Resolution declaring certain property located at Nakomis Avenue (parcel #17-10675-165) as surplus property.

ROUTING: F&P 11.4.2021

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

This property is zoned R-1. The size of this parcel is 0.17 acres, 7,405 sq. ft. which meets the criteria for lot size for a single family home. There is a public access easement on the entire propriety which likely would be incompatible with private ownership or future use. Approval of the amended resolution would direct staff to remove the public access easement in order to make the property developable for private use.

Given the proximity to existing public access at Copeland Park and Veterans Park, lack of existing infrastructure of public access, and that this parcel and the no parking on Nakomis making it difficult for public outside of the neighborhood to use, removing the public access agreement for private development may be an option. However, removing the easement may have some restrictions on future use if it is required that the City vacate the property and divide for adjacent owners.

In reviewing the public access designation and the ability to amend the plat to remove this designation, our Engineering Dept found three possible options:

- 1. Petition the Circuit Court to change the designation of the Lot, however they most likely would award the property to the neighbors on each side, so the city would not get the property to sell.
- 2. Vacate the property which would cause the County to decide the splitting of the land, most likely to the neighbors on each side, with the City not getting the property to sell.
- 3. Have the Council pass a resolution discontinuing the use of the lot, which would then force the property to get noticed to the DNR. They could recommend yes or no, to the discontinuance, but this would also force the same issue of the lot getting split and given to the neighbors without the City getting the property to sell.

If the outcome is that the property is divided by the two adjacent property owners, it is noted that both owners are in the City. If through this process the City is allowed to remove the easement from the site and move forward with selling it for redevelopment, that would be the course staff would take.

Advisement from the Legal Department has been requested and they would like 60 days to review the documentation and advise on next steps.

GENERAL LOCATION:

Between 1618 and 1700 Nakomis Ave, Council District 1, Logan Northside Neighborhood Association.

RECOMMENDATION OF OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

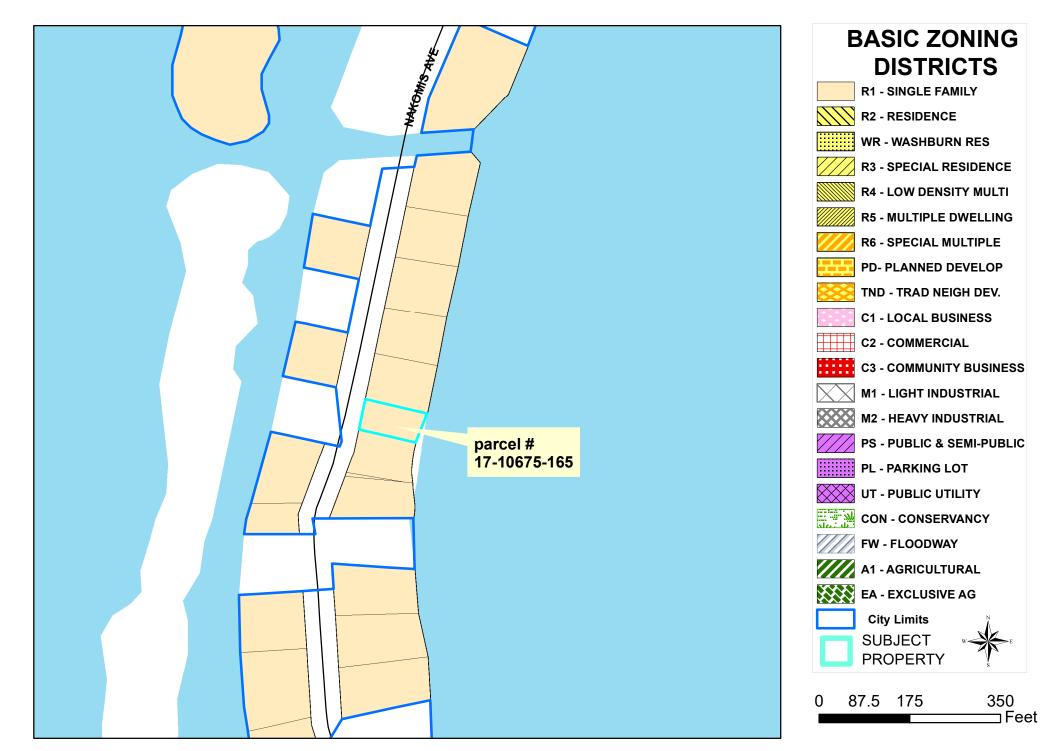
Referred by the Council at the October meeting. Amended resolution to be reviewed by the Board of Public Works 11/1, the same day as the CPC meeting.

CONSISTENCY WITH ADOPTED COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

The zoning of this property of R-1 would remain the same and is consistent with the Future Land Use (Fringe Residential Housing) of the Comprehensive Plan.

> PLANNING RECOMMENDATION:

This item is recommended to be **REFERRED for 60 days** for the Legal Department to review the easement and the City's options and process for removing this.







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