

March 3, 2023

To: Markiea Carter, Director, Department of Community & Economic Development

From: Katherine Keough-Jurs, FAICP, Director, Department of City Planning & Engagement

Subject: Community Engagement Meeting Summary – Burnet and Cumberland Vacation and Sale

On Monday, February 27, 2023, the Department of City Planning & Engagement hosted a community engagement meeting regarding the proposed vacation and sale of portions of Burnet Avenue and Cumberland Street and City-owned property at 2454 Cumberland Street in Mt. Auburn. The applicant, Kingsley + Co., seeks ownership of the subject properties to convert them into a secure, private drive to eliminate issues of crime, dumping, and ongoing maintenance issues. Kingsley + Co. has control of all properties abutting the portions of City-owned right-of-way and property they wish to purchase. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a summary of the public engagement meeting.

Mailed notice was sent to property owners within 400 feet of the subject properties, the Mt. Auburn Community Council, and the Mt. Auburn Community Development Corporation. Notice was also posted twice on the Department of City Planning & Engagement's Facebook and Twitter accounts. A website was created with more information about the proposed project and was included in the notices. It can be accessed here: <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/planning/community-engagement-meetings/>.

The meeting was held virtually on Zoom at 4:00 p.m. Staff from the Department of City Planning & Engagement, the Department of Community & Economic Development (DCED), and Kingsley + Co. were in attendance. Department of City Planning & Engagement staff facilitated the meeting, and staff from Kingsley + Co. were available to answer questions. Eight community members were in attendance, which included both the president of the Mt. Auburn Community Council (MACC) and the president of the Mt. Auburn Community Development Corporation (MACDC).

All attendees were given the opportunity to speak; community members shared concerns related to the site and the proposal. The PowerPoint presentation that was presented during the meeting is included as Attachment 1. The concerns shared can be found in Attachment 2, *Additional Information*.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1: PowerPoint Presentation from Public Engagement Meeting
- Attachment 2: Additional Information



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Agenda

1. Welcome & Housekeeping
2. Brief presentation
3. Question & Answer
 - Please save all questions/comments until Q&A
 - Use the “raise hand” function if you have a question or comment to share

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Purpose of This Engagement Session

- This is a public meeting to discuss the proposed vacation and sale to allow for staff to obtain feedback about the proposal
 - City staff is here to facilitate the meeting and answer any process related questions
 - The applicant is here to answer any project related questions
 - **No decisions are being made at this meeting**

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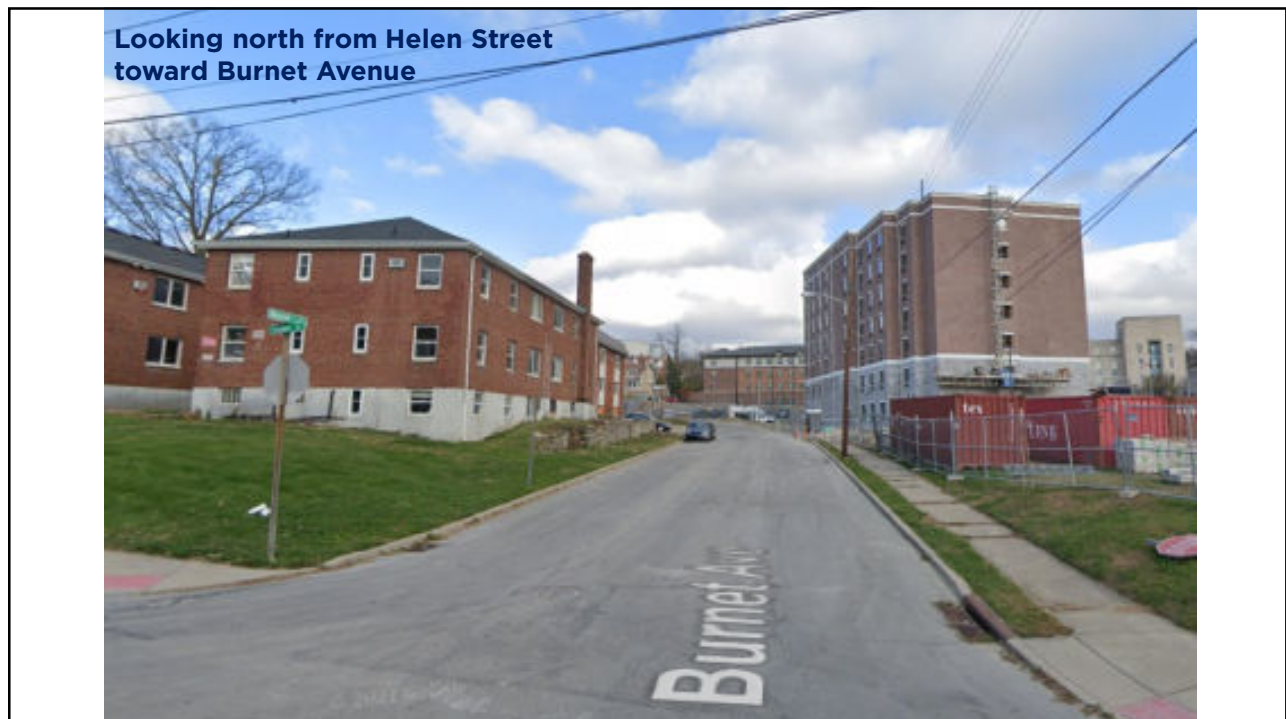
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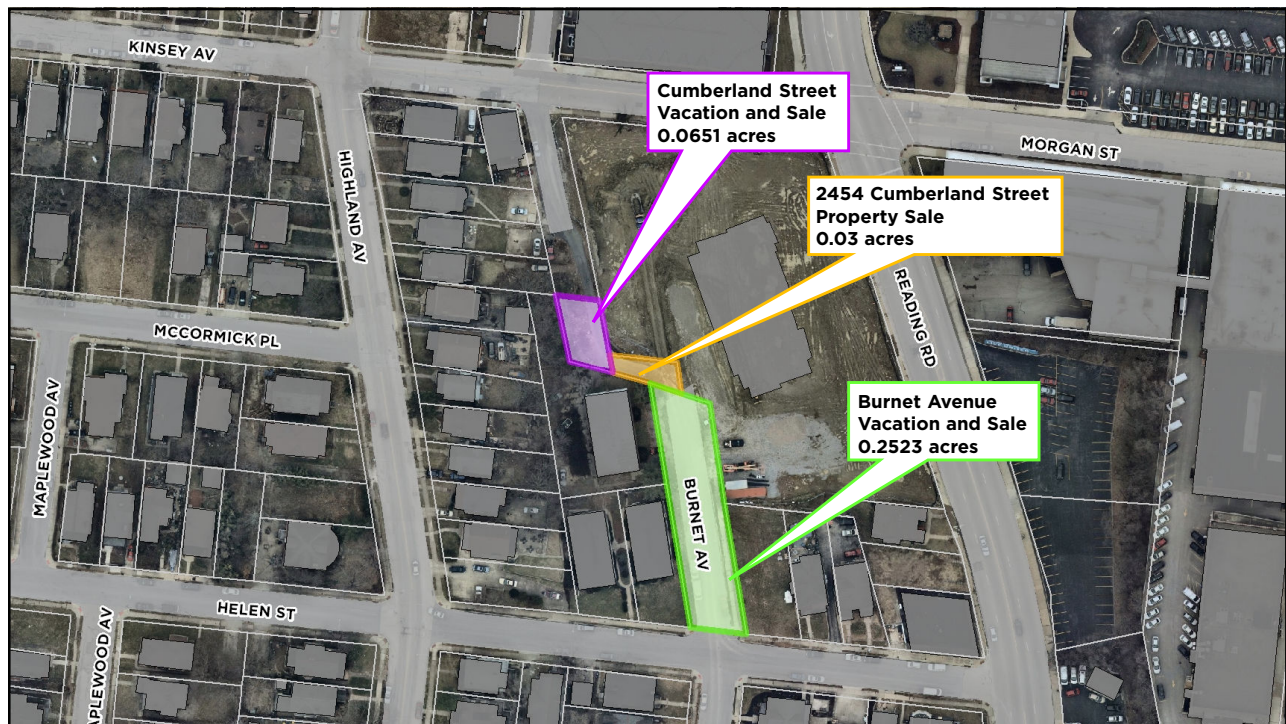
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Next Steps + Contact

Next Steps

- City Planning Commission: 3/3/2023
- City Council: TBD

Contact

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Burnet and Cumberland Additional Information

This document outlines information that was shared during the public engagement meeting on Monday, February 27, 2023. This document is intended as a summary and not as meeting minutes.

Project Info:

Kingsley + Co. requested the vacation and sale of approximately 0.3474 acres of City-owned right-of-way and land in Mt. Auburn. The applicant has control of all properties abutting the portions of City-owned right-of-way and property they wish to purchase. The applicant seeks ownership of the subject properties to convert them into a secure, private drive to eliminate issues of crime, dumping, and ongoing maintenance issues.

Questions:

- Will Mt. Auburn residents have access to the streets if they do not rent one of the apartments or stay in the hotel?

The intent would be to install a fence to secure the property. Only tenants of the multi-family buildings and the hotel would have access.

Additional Concerns:

Comments from the public generally fell into several categories: access, parking and crime. More specific comments and details related to them can be found below.

- Some residents shared frustration about losing access as they enjoy biking and walking through the Burnet and Cumberland right-of-way.
- The proposal is short-sighted and will forever alter how the neighborhood looks and feels.
- Closing the streets does not stop crime from occurring; it only pushes it to another place in the neighborhood.
- By closing this portion of Burnet Avenue, the neighborhood will lose several on-street parking spaces.