



AGENDA REPORT

Department: Housing Authority
Prepared by: Carlos Aguirre, Community Development Director
Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024
Approved by: Benjamin A. Martinez, City Manager

SUBJECT:

National City Brownfields Technical Assistance Panel Report

RECOMMENDATION:

Review, Provide Comment, and File the Presentation.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE PRIOR ACTION:

Not Applicable.

EXPLANATION:

National City has a proud history of industrial and military land use, but it has long struggled to balance this with livability and environmental equity for its residents. In 2017, the city adopted a Downtown Specific Plan (DSP). Its stated goals are providing housing; effective parking management; desirable land use and quality urban design; a user-friendly entitlement process; avoidance or mitigation of impacts; and improved mobility and access.

Within or just beyond the DSP's boundaries are many suspected brownfield sites that impede the progress envisioned by the DSP and City leaders. To help overcome this impediment, a team from San Diego State University (SDSU), working alongside the City, secured two federal grants to identify, prioritize, and assess brownfield sites in National City.

Working in close collaboration with project partners and advisors, the SDSU team is cataloguing the brownfield sites, identifying likely contaminants at the sites, and suggesting strategies to remediate the sites. As part of its project, SDSU also engaged Urban Land Institute San Diego-Tijuana (ULI) to assemble a panel of land use and design experts to recommend future uses for four of the identified brownfield sites. While the ULI TAP's assignment was to assess sites individually for their highest and best uses, while incorporating the criteria above, the panel also considered the sites together and in context of their surroundings to illuminate connections.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Not Applicable

RELATED CITY COUNCIL 2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Health, Environment, and Sustainability

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

This is not a project under CEQA and is therefore not subject to environmental review. CCR15378; PRC 21065.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION:

The Agenda Report was posted within 72 hours of the meeting date and time in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.

ORDINANCE:

Not Applicable

EXHIBIT:

Exhibit A - NC Brownfields Presentation