

MEETING DATE: August 22, 2023

TITLE:

Consider action to approve Resolution No. R-2023-133 of the City Council, of the City of Bastrop, Texas, approving the expansion of Fairview Cemetery and requesting the City Manager and City Attorney to make preparations for the demolition, sale and repurposing of certain municipal surplus real property adjacent to the cemetery.

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:

Submitted by: Councilmembers Crouch and Plunkett

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

The city acquired various lots adjacent to Fairview cemetery for future expansion. The lots are delineated below and does not include the lot marked with an X. (Figure 1)

Bastrop CAD Web Map

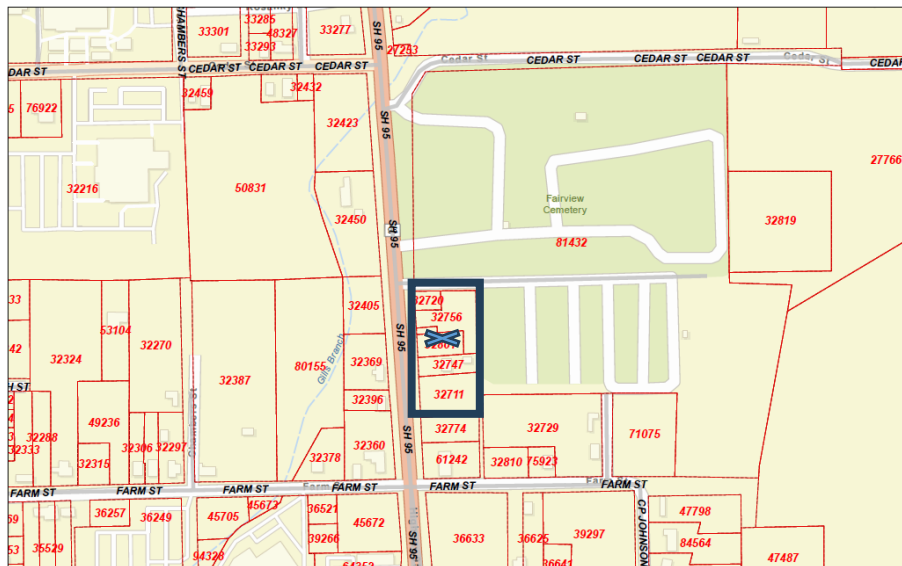


Figure 1

As of August 17, 2023, the cemetery has 49 lots available for burial. The cemetery board is working on plans for a columbarium which would allow cremated loved ones to be placed in a different area of the grounds. That project is not estimated to be completed until early 2025. Additionally, staff is exploring utilizing a partnership with the Boys Scouts to mark additional rows that have already been surveyed but need on the ground marking. This could create an additional 75-100 burial plots.

Additionally, there is a “blue house” situated on one of the lots (Figure 2). The house is in disrepair. The city could either demolish the house or place the house for sale to be moved by a potential buyer.

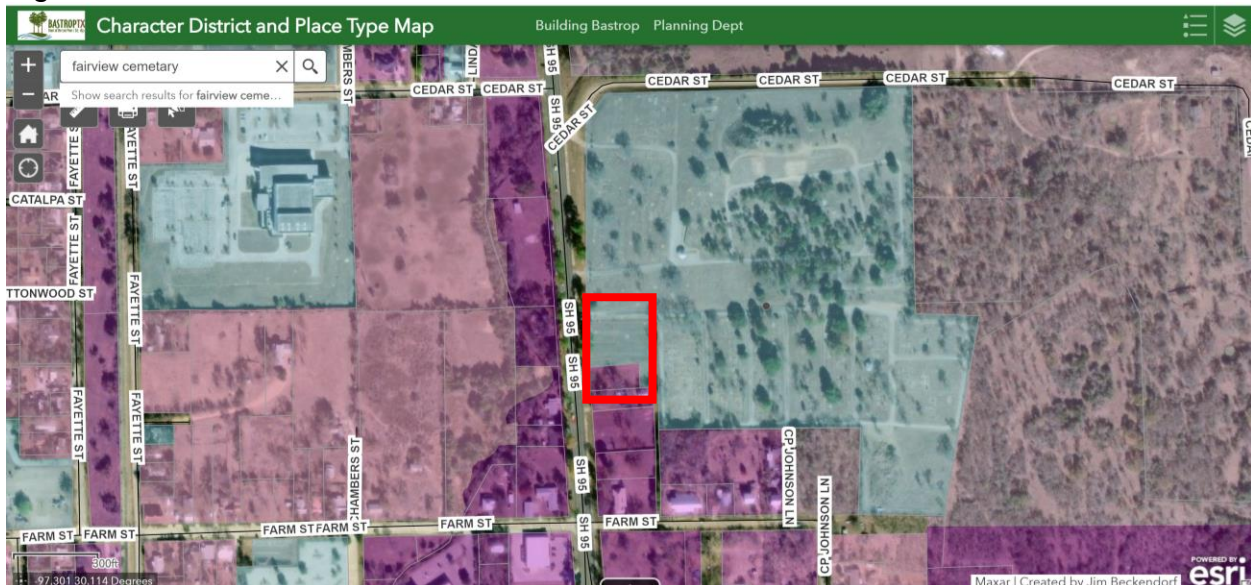


Figure 2

The lots are currently zoned Civic Space ***and*** P5 Core. (Figure 3)

P5 is defined in the B3 code as “*Higher density mixture of Building Types that accommodate commercial, retail, offices, row houses, and apartments. It has a tight network of Streets, with wide sidewalks, steady Street Tree plantings, and buildings set close to the sidewalks. P5 is a highly walkable area. A continuous line of buildings is critical to define the Public Frontage and allow for visible activity along the Street edge.*”

Figure 3



To be used as a cemetery, the lots would need to be rezoned from P5 Core to Civic Space. As city owned property, there would be zero cost for an application to Planning Commission to rezone.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Potential cost for a demolition which would include asbestos abatement and disposal and could range up to \$100,000.

Initially, a proposal to sell the house with the buyer to move the structure is the most cost effective for the City.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends rezoning the property to Civic Space and also placing the blue house up for sale with the buyer to remove the structure from the site.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution