



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

AGENDA DATE: January 8, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: Consider adopting a resolution approving the conveyance of property to the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority

PREPARED BY: Rob Mattei, Director of Community Development

BACKGROUND:

Last year GREDA completed its work with SRF Consulting Group and Economic Development Services in the development of an updated Downtown Plan. The process involved a significant amount of public engagement, including focus group sessions and design charettes involving Downtown businesses and property owners.

One of the many discussions in this process was the lack of connectivity and density of development between the established retail area lying between Hwy. 2 and 5th St. N., along 1st Ave. NW and the retail area on 1st Ave. NW and 3rd St. N. between 2nd St. N. and Pokegama Ave. Within the final plan, which also considered the availability of parking in the Downtown, it was recommended that the City consider the sale or lease and private development of property the City owned parcels in Block 36, shown on the attached map.

The Downtown Plan suggests that the development of a complementary business in this location would begin to bridge the void in development in this area and by doing so improve connectivity between the north and south retail areas.

The proposed resolution would transfer ownership of these two parcels to the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority. Through this conveyance, GREDA would be tasked with sale and development of the property in accordance with the Downtown Plan.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION:

Make a motion to adopt a resolution approving the conveyance of property to the Grand Rapids Economic Development Authority