

CITY COUNCIL

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CITY OF LODI

2015 "Wine Region of the Year"

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LODI, CA –

An Access Center provides a gateway to:

All
Community
Counseling
Employment/Empowerment
Sobriety
Shelter/Support Services

"Helping Create a Win/Win for the City of Lodi Community"

The City of Lodi ("City") Community Development Department, through its Neighborhood Services Division, has engaged in a citywide informational campaign, broadcasting information and gathering feedback instrumental to developing long-term solutions to homelessness in our City. A vital ingredient, and considered as the first component of a long-term solution, centers on the development of an Access Center. This release is the seventh in a series to provide information about the Access Center to the Lodi community.

Public Meeting to Discuss Access Center and Potential Locations:

Due to the ongoing risks from COVID-19 and the rise in cases due to the Delta variant, the original in-person public meeting intended was not scheduled. However, the California Department of Public Health issued updated guidance on July 28, 2021 and City staff has utilized this new guidance to develop a plan to offer an in-person public meeting for additional community involvement and discussion on the Access Center potential locations. The public meeting will be held:

Thursday, September 2, 2021 from 7pm to 9pm.
Hutchins Street Square – Kirst Hall, 125 S Hutchins St. Lodi, CA 95240.

To attend the public meeting, the following guidelines **must** be followed:

- A facemask must be worn properly at all times by all individuals, regardless of vaccination status
 - Please visit California Department of Public Health website for any exemptions
- All individuals must maintain social distancing of a minimum of six feet from anyone not living in your household (seating will be pre-arranged)
- Hand sanitizer will be available and located at the entrance

What you should know before attending:

- Seating will be limited to allow for social distancing
- All questions and comments will need to be held until the end of the presentation
- Public comment will be held to a maximum of 3 minutes per speaker. In order to ensure everyone that would like to speak has an opportunity, this time limit will be followed.

- Considering the limitations of available seating it is encouraged that only one member of any household or organization be present to provide public comment.
- Microphones will be brought to each speaker to avoid a communally shared podium, and the microphones will be held by a volunteer to avoid excessive contact.
- For the health and safety of others in attendance, please do not attend if you are feeling unwell or have a known exposure to COVID-19.

Initial Overview of Determination Process for Potential Access Center Locations:

At the onset of the project, City staff evaluated all City owned assets and completed numerous commercial/industrial real estate searches of sale listings that met specified criteria (parcel size, proximity to public transit, social service providers, and community resources). City owned assets that do not already have a current or intended use and real estate stock for sale in Lodi for this purpose are limited.

Breakdown of Staff Evaluation Considerations:

- City Owned Property:
 - 128 Parcels owned by the City
 - 47 Parcels met minimum acreage requirement (minimum of 1.4 acres)
 - Only 13 Parcels of the 47 were not already committed to a current use
 - Only 5 of the 13 parcels met the minimum requirements for the Access Center.
 - 3 sites were eliminated due to environmental concerns or zoning restrictions
 - Two sites met the minimum criteria to be brought forward for consideration and are listed below.
- Property Not Owned by the City:
 - During one of the general listing searches, only one site was found that met the minimum criteria for consideration and it is listed below.

Sites to be Presented as Potential Locations for the Access Center:

- Pixley Basin (Auto Center Dr. side) – Thurman and Pixley were considered early on in the process. Thurman was later deemed environmentally challenging and was dropped from consideration (see below). Pixley meets the needs of the intended purpose and will be brought forth for consideration in place of Thurman.
- Century Blvd surplus right-of-way – Part of the Access Center Community Survey, meets the needs of the intended purpose.
- 710 N Sacramento Street – Part of the Access Center Community Survey, meets the needs of the intended purpose.

Update on Thurman Street Removal from Consideration:

- Thurman Street near Guild Ave – *This property was part of the Access Center Community Survey. A portion of parcel has a future intended use to expand electric utility infrastructure in Lodi. After further evaluation, the level of expansion known became greater, which adds an environmental concern that has eliminated this site as an option.*

Other properties evaluated that did not meet minimum requirements will be described by City staff in the community meeting in more detail.

We are excited about the opportunity to present in person to the community, and look forward to the meeting on September 2nd.

For more information, contact the Community Development Department, Neighborhood Services Division at NeighborhoodServices@lodi.gov. For updates on the Lodi Access Center Engagement Process, please visit the City website at <http://lodi.gov/1037/Lodi-Access-Center>