UPDATE ON ACQUISITION OF 202 SOUTH LIBERTY STREET (FORMER U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT LOCATION)

City Council Finance Committee August 12, 2019



BACKGROUND



- Funding for acquisition of 202 South Liberty Street (Former Site of U.S. Bankruptcy Court) approved as part of \$33 million in new financing to address emerging capital needs
- Interest in developing site into open space to honor Peter Oliver, former slave and member of the Moravian community who owned a farm on the site
- Negotiations between The Conservation Fund and Merz Family Investments, LLC, current owners, to acquire the property
- Since approval of funding, on-going discussions about potential uses of the property, including repurposing the first floor into a museum

PROFILE OF PROPERTY



- 1.537 acres
- 18,927 square feet in building
- 27 years old (built in 1992)
- Currently one tenant State of North Carolina







The Conservation Fund

- Environment Assessments
 - o One area of concern ("Foundary-1")
 - o Owners committed to cleaning site after purchase approved by the Mayor and Council
 - o Remediation would take approximately one week.
- Negotiated purchase price of \$1.55 million
 - o Appraised value of \$1.89 million
 - o Tax value of \$1.659 million
 - o City cost of \$1.635 million to include purchase price and The Conservation Fund's costs

City of Winston-Salem

- Facility Assessment
 - Overall good condition (exterior, interior, electrical)
 - o Finding roof needs to be replaced (estimated cost of \$200,000)
- Stormwater Infrastructure
- New Access Road
 - o To be constructed as part of NCDOT Business 40 project

LEASE WITH STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA



- Second floor office space (approximately 2,490 square feet)
- One year with two one-year renewals
 - o Currently in first renewal period (March 1, 2019 through February 28, 2020)
- Annual lease payment totals \$24,900.
- Under terms of lease, owner is responsible for all utilities (except telephone), exterior maintenance, adequate parking, and building maintenance (including HVAC and lighting).
- Discussions with City staff about on-going lease
 - Reserved parking spaces
 - Secure access to second floor (badge access)

POTENTIAL LEASE WITH NEW WINSTON MUSEUM



- Triple net lease for first floor space
- New Winston Museum responsible for upfit, operations, and maintenance

- City responsible for major maintenance of the mechanical systems and other major building components, including the parking lot
- Term of ten years
 - Would require upset bid process

NEW WINSTON MUSEUM VISION



NEXT STEPS



Approval of property acquisition

Assumption of lease with State of North Carolina

Upset bid process for first floor lease

Approval of new lease with New Winston Museum