**ANC**

August 9, 2018

Mayor and Council Members

As you are aware, the Austin Neighborhoods Council Executive Committee send the council a letter on June 22, 2018 urging the Council to pass item #60 on the June 28th council agenda to “obtain the best use, favorable financial terms and community benefits for all of Austin” for the disposition of the McKalla property.  We are grateful that the Council passed item #60 to obtain competitive proposals for this property.  However, the opportunity to fully evaluate all of the competitive proposals to determine the best outcome for the McKalla tract will be lost if the Council proceeds with only the Precourt Sports Ventures (PSV) proposal.

The ANC Executive Committee has reviewed the Council agenda for today’s meeting and has voted unanimously to urge the City Council to vote **NO on item #19** and **YES on item #109**. We believe that proceeding with only the PSV proposal is the wrong way to provide to our community the best development opportunity for this city owned property for the following reasons:

\*          Directing the City Manager to “negotiate and execute” a contract with PSV based on the “term sheet” denies to the Council final determination of any resultant contract negotiated by staff.  The term sheet is a very general statement of expectations and does not provide any real surety to the community of what will be in the final contract language.  Any final contract for the disposition of the property should return to the City Council for a public hearing before execution by the Council

\*          While the City Council has acknowledged that the two biggest challenges that Austin faces are affordable housing and mobility. The PSV proposal does very little to address the critical shortage of affordable housing.  As for enhancing mobility the PSV proposal is silent on providing any support for a transit station at this location, is problematic with regard to street access, and does not provide adequate parking for event patrons.

\*          The use of city owned land, being financially responsible for infrastructure costs and future financial liabilities and the giveaway of future property tax revenue needed by our City, County and School Districts all for a “For Profit” private business is contrary to the fiduciary responsibility of the City Council to the tax payers.

Community trust in our municipal government is at a low point, voting for Item #19 will only acerbate this problem.  Please vote **NO on item #19**.  But by voting **YES on item #109** you will help rebuild the communities trust in our City Council.

*Jeff Jack*

President Austin Neighborhoods Council

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