

FACT SHEET**CITY OF SHREVEPORT, LOUISIANA**

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT</u>
An ordinance declaring the City's interest in certain vacant land as surplus, and our intention to transfer certain vacant land to the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce and to otherwise provide with respect thereto.	July 14, 2021	SPAR

PURPOSE

The City of Shreveport-SPAR is requesting authorization to surplus and transfer certain vacant property located at 400 Edwards Street ("the Property") to the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of continuing to create and spur economic development within the City of Shreveport.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since its inception in 1910, the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce has been a non-profit organization endeavoring to serve as a facilitator of commerce and community builder. Over the years, the Chamber has been instrumental in starting or supporting numerous projects of benefit to the community including raising funds to purchase the land for Barksdale Air Force Base, the creation of the Military Affairs Council, the creation of the North Louisiana Economic Partnership, the creation of the Biomedical Research Foundation (BRF), the establishment of the Convention and Tourism Bureau, the Mardi Gras Krewes, the development of Red River Radio, the completion of 1-49 North and South, in addition to the attraction of significant business investment including General Motors and AT&T.

Since 1987 the Chamber has supported a 10-parish area by hosting the Northwest Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center, offering free business counseling to help businesses, in particular minority and disadvantaged businesses, prepare to apply for state, local and federal government contracts. The Chamber has also invested in education and workforce development through hosting the Alliance for Education which provides direct financial support for Caddo Parish Public Schools as well as the SBBA which brings together local universities with policymakers from around the state.

The Chamber's members have not only been captains of industry creating jobs and opportunity for countless Shreveport residents, but leaders in the civic and philanthropic life of the city and community as well.

Since accepting the responsibility to steward the original Shreveport Library building in 1980, the Chamber has invested more than \$1,000,000 in its maintenance and upkeep, ensuring the building is available for use by business, civic and government groups for meetings, events, and activities. As the building approaches its 100th anniversary, the Chamber once again seeks to step in to support the City by accepting full responsibility for renovating the structure to maintain the historic character of the building and continue to keep this important city landmark and iconic symbol of Shreveport's history in good working order and as an important location for meetings and convenings in downtown Shreveport.

As such, the City desires to transfer the Property to the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce in order to further the continuation of the creation and spurring of economic development within the City of Shreveport.

<u>TIMETABLE</u> Introduction: August 24, 2021 Final Passage: September 28, 2021	<u>ATTACHMENT(S)</u> Map
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SPECIAL PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

Notice of the *proposed* ordinance shall be advertised three (3) times in fifteen days, one (1) week apart.
La. R.S. [33:4712](#)

If there is any opposition to the proposed ordinance, the opposition shall be made in writing, filed with the Shreveport Clerk of Council within fifteen (15) days after posting of the notice *or* its first advertised publication.

<u>FINANCE</u> S None	<u>SOURCE OF FUNDS</u>
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ALTERNATIVES

(1) Adopt the ordinance as submitted, or (2) Amend the ordinance, or (3) Reject the ordinance.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend adoption of the ordinance.

FACT SHEET PREPARED BY: Shelly Ragle, SPAR Director

ORDINANCE NO. _____ OF 2021

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING THE CITY'S INTEREST IN CERTAIN VACANT LAND AS SURPLUS, AND OUR INTENTION TO TRANSFER CERTAIN VACANT LAND TO THE GREATER SHREVEPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, the City of Shreveport ("City"), through the Shreveport Library has acquired title to certain properties identified as:

0.162 ACS. M/L- LOT 1, W.R. CARTER'S SUBDIVISION, BLK. 3, UNIT 2, IN T.A.L. 5, CITY OF SHREVEPORT, 181437-208-0001 (subject property 1);

LOTS 14, 15, 16 & NE 30 FT OF LOT 13, BLK 33, Caddo Parish, Louisiana;
Geog #: 181437-139-0014-00; municipally known as 400 Edwards St., Shreveport, LA 71101; and

WHEREAS, the building on the property housed the Shreve Memorial Library from 1923-1980; and;

WHEREAS, the said property is on the National Register of Historic Places, and;

WHEREAS, the said property is not needed by the City for a public purpose and should therefore be declared surplus property; and

WHEREAS, the property shall be used for the spurring of economic growth and business opportunities for the benefit of the citizens within the City of Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, the City of Shreveport has leased that property to the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce for more than 35 years, and the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce has for that period been a tenant in good standing, and;

WHEREAS, the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce has expressed its willingness to assume ownership of said property with the understanding that it will maintain

the building and grounds in good order, and will maintain the historical exterior and structural integrity of said building in accordance with its place on the National Register of Historic Places, and will make such updates and modifications as necessary to enable the building to continue to serve the Chamber of Commerce, and;

WHEREAS, La. R.S. 33:4712 requires that notice of this ordinance be published at least three (3) times within fifteen (15) days, one week apart.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED that the City of Shreveport is hereby authorized to transfer:

LOTS 14, 15, 16 & NE 30 FT OF LOT 13, BLK 33,
Caddo Parish, Louisiana;
Geog #: 181437-139-0014-00; municipally known as
400 Edwards St., Shreveport, LA 71101

to the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce in “as is” condition and without warranty of title or recourse whatsoever against the City of Shreveport, in accordance with State law and City ordinances.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that the Mayor of the City of Shreveport is authorized to execute and deliver, for and on behalf of the City of Shreveport, any and all document(s) relative to the transfer of the property to the Greater Shreveport Chamber of Commerce after review and approval of such document(s) by the Office of the City Attorney, and to do any and all things necessary and incidental to carry out the authorization expressed in this ordinance relative to donation of the said property.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any provision or item of this ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of this ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all ordinances or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

THUS DONE AND ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Shreveport, Louisiana.

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

City Attorney’s Office