

Media Advisory

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Community forum, public workshop to focus on the future of Central State

INDIANAPOLIS -The City of Indianapolis, Department of Metropolitan Development, will host a community forum and 2-day public workshop regarding the potential reuse of the Central State property.

The purpose of the community forum and workshop is to involve residents and stakeholders in identifying key issues, brainstorming ideas and compiling recommendations for the former Central State site. Ball State's College of Architecture and Planning will facilitate both events.

COMMUNITY FORUM: Thursday, November 6, 2003
7 p.m.

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS: Friday, November 7, 2003
9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday, November 8, 2003
9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

WHERE: All events will be held at George Washington Community School, 2215 W. Washington St.

The community also will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with project staff and planners at the open workshops on Friday and Saturday, November 7-8. Residents, local stakeholders and other parties interested in site's redevelopment are encouraged to drop-in at any time during the workshops.

After lying vacant for nearly a decade, Mayor Peterson announced that the city would purchase the property from the state in March and encouraged local stakeholders to become engaged in the planning process.

In May, Peterson appointed a 25-member panel, the Central State Reuse Advisory Commission, to help guide redevelopment and give input into possible site reuses. The commission consists of neighborhood residents, elected officials, city planners, local businesses and others interested in the long-term viability of the neighborhood.

The Central State property consists of 160 acres in the 2800-3300 blocks of W. Washington St. The facility served as a state-run hospital for people with developmental disabilities and mental illness before it closed in 1994.

Residents and stakeholders also can participate in the planning process through a newly-created website, www.centralstatestudy.org or by calling Ball State's College of Architecture and Planning, Indianapolis Center at (317) 822-6167.

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