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City of
Indianapolis
Bart Peterson, Mayor



City seeking redevelopment proposals for the Central State site

INDIANAPOLIS – The City of Indianapolis, Department of Metropolitan Development is seeking proposals for the redevelopment of the Central State property on the city’s near west side, city officials announced today.

The city’s request for proposals (RFP) outlines the availability of two parcels consisting of more than 115 acres along West Washington and Tibbs Avenue and recommends a mixed-use development, with possible reuses ranging from commercial and retail, residential, educational, arts and culture and light industrial development.

“Issuing this RFP is yet another positive step towards redeveloping Central State and breathing new life into the city’s near west side,” said Mayor Bart Peterson. “We are looking forward to getting innovative, creative ideas from developers and ultimately moving forward with a plan that best serves the surrounding community and the entire west side.”

Developers can obtain a copy of the RFP starting today at noon by calling 327-5823 or visiting the city’s economic development web portal at imaps.indygov.org/ed_portal. The RFP also can be picked up on the 20th floor of the City-County Building, 200 East Washington St.

The RFP excludes three parcels of the Central State property: the existing Max Bahr city park, the Indianapolis Police Department’s mounted patrol horse barn, and the Indianapolis Fire Department Station 18 on Warman Street.

The Central State property consists of 160 acres along the 2800-3300 blocks of West Washington Street. The facility served as a state-run hospital for persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness for more than 150 years before it closed in 1994.

After lying vacant for nearly a decade, Mayor Peterson announced that the city would purchase the property from the state in March of 2003 and encouraged local stakeholders to become engaged in the planning process.

Peterson appointed the Central State Reuse Advisory Commission, a 25-member panel consisting of neighborhood residents, elected officials, city planners, local businesses and others interested in the long-term viability of the site and neighborhood. The commission conducted a yearlong process that included significant community input and discussion, culminating in the consensus recommendations reflected in the Central State Reuse Study issued last year.

For more information on the reuse of Central State, please visit www.centralstatestudy.org.