



City of Santa Barbara
Downtown Parking Committee

Memorandum

DATE: November 8, 2018
TO: Downtown Parking Committee
FROM: Brad Hess, Principal Project Manager
SUBJECT: UPDATE ON NEW POLICE STATION

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Downtown Parking Committee receive a presentation on the site selection status for the new Police Station and is updated on the process related to the site selection and on-site parking requirements associated with the Police Station Project.

INTRODUCTION:

The existing Police Station, constructed in 1959, is a concrete and steel structure that operates as an essential facility for the City of Santa Barbara. Currently, there are 4 locations housing police officers and administrative staff totaling 211 individuals, and the existing police station is in full operation 24 hours per day, seven days per week. The building serves as the main administrative office for police services and also includes a jail and shooting range. The building houses chemical and Special Weapons and Tactics equipment, criminal records and crime scene evidence. In case of a disaster, the building also serves as the City's backup Emergency Operations Center. The Police and Fire Combined Communications Center that handles 911 calls and all radio communication is located within the nearby Granada Garage.

In 2000, the Police Department began leasing an adjacent building to address overcrowding; this building (PD Annex) now contains approximately 40 police officers and administrative staff and has become a critical part of Police Operations.

The existing Police Station does not meet modern building code standards for an essential facility, nor for site accessibility. Construction of a new building is required to sufficiently house all Police operations in one place.

DISCUSSION:

A Seismic Retrofit and Building Assessment Study was completed in 2010 and a Needs Assessment Study in 2012, which all concluded that a new building as well as a new location are the best option to meet the needs of the Police Station. However, the project was put on hold due to lack of funding after the dissolution of the Redevelopment Agency in 2012.

With the passage of Measure C in November 2017 providing a funding source, the project was reinstated and a Request for Qualifications soliciting consultant teams for all pre-construction services was released in February 2018. A contract was awarded in June 2018.

Multiple sites were assessed and narrowed down to two locations: the Cota Commuter Lot at Cota and Santa Barbara Streets and the Louise Lowry Davis/1235 Teen Center/Spencer Adams Park at De La Vina and Victoria Streets. These two sites are being assessed architecturally, environmentally, and culturally, taking into account all of the variables that influence the selection of a site.

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an update on this process and to answer questions.