

## Public Notice

The City of Houston (City), through its Housing and Community Development Department (HCDD), posted a public notice in the Houston Chronicle on October 21, 2009 notifying the public that it was proposing to sale and change the use of various parcels of land out of Palm Center in connection with development of a bus transit center at Griggs Road and Beekman Street and its Southeast light rail corridor along Griggs Road by the Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, Texas (METRO). This public notice reduces the parcel size which METRO will be purchasing and also reduces the amount of money METRO will be paying to the City and Houston Business Development Inc. (HBDI) in connection with the purchase.

On January 20, 2011, the City of Houston entered into an Access and Use Agreement with METRO which granted METRO permission to enter the city parcels to perform the construction activities associated with the Southeast Corridor of the Light Rail Line. METRO now intends to purchase these parcels from the City and HBDI for public right of way. City Council approval is required for this transaction due to the fact the Palm Center was purchased with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and is jointly owned by the City and HBDI.

The property in question is comprised of 6 parcels of land totaling 0.3149 acres and has a depth range of 8 feet to 18 feet along Griggs. The acquisition will include approximately 84 parking spaces, asphalt paving, concrete curbing, signs and landscaping. According to the land plans provided by METRO, there are two options to remediate the parking loss. Option A shows a parking loss of 21 spaces and Option B shows the same amount of parking spaces for both the before and after conditions. In either scenario, the property exceeds the minimum parking requirements for the City of Houston.

The City's General Services Department (GSD) has reviewed the appraisals and has agreed that the compensation amounts of \$30,354 to HBDI for 2 parcels of land totaling 0.1161 acres and \$51,798 to the City of Houston for 4 parcels of land totaling 0.1988 represent fair market value for the land.

The public has thirty (30) days to comment on the proposed sale of land. The thirty-day period extends from Saturday, May 25, 2013 through Monday, June 24, 2013. Following the public comment period, this item will be submitted to City Council for approval. For more information on the proposal, please contact Chris Butler at (713) 865-4196. You may access HCDD's website at [www.houstonhousing.org](http://www.houstonhousing.org) for more information on its programs.