

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-18

BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY OF IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO:

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY OF THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO, ALSO KNOWN AS THE IDAHO FALLS REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, ACCEPTING THAT CERTAIN REPORT ON ELIGIBILITY FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY REFERRED TO AS THE NORTHGATE MILE AREA AS AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA AND REVENUE ALLOCATION AREA AND JUSTIFICATION FOR DESIGNATING THE AREA AS APPROPRIATE FOR AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT; TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY TECHNICAL CHANGES TO THE REPORT; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CHAIRMAN OR ADMINISTRATOR TO TRANSMIT THE REPORT AND THIS RESOLUTION TO THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IDAHO FALLS REQUESTING ITS CONSIDERATION FOR DESIGNATION OF AN URBAN RENEWAL AREA AND SEEKING FURTHER DIRECTION FROM THE COUNCIL; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

THIS RESOLUTION, made on the date hereinafter set forth by the Urban Renewal Agency of the City of Idaho Falls, Idaho, also known as the Idaho Falls Redevelopment Agency, an independent public body, corporate and politic, authorized under the authority of the Idaho Urban Renewal Law of 1965, Chapter 20, Title 50, Idaho Code, as amended (hereinafter the “Law”) and the Local Economic Development Act, Chapter 29, Title 50, Idaho Code, as amended (hereinafter the “Act”), a duly created and functioning urban renewal agency for Idaho Falls, Idaho, hereinafter referred to as the “Agency.”

WHEREAS, the City Council (the “City Council”) of the city of Idaho Falls, Idaho (the “City”), after notice duly published, conducted a public hearing on the River Commons Urban Renewal Plan (the “River Commons Plan”);

WHEREAS, following said public hearing, the City Council adopted its Ordinance No. 2256 on October 14, 2004, approving the River Commons Plan, making certain findings and establishing the River Commons revenue allocation area (the “River Commons Project Area”);

WHEREAS, the City Council, after notice duly published conducted a public hearing on the Urban Renewal Plan for the Eagle Ridge Urban Renewal Project (the “Eagle Ridge Plan”);

WHEREAS, following said public hearing, the City Council adopted its Ordinance No. 2978 on December 11, 2014, approving the Eagle Ridge Plan, making certain findings and establishing the Eagle Ridge revenue allocation area (the “Eagle Ridge Project Area”);

WHEREAS, the City Council, after notice duly published conducted a public hearing on the Urban Renewal Plan for the Jackson Hole Junction Urban Renewal Project (the “Jackson Hole Junction Plan”);

WHEREAS, following said public hearing, the City Council adopted its Ordinance No. 3142 on November 9, 2017, approving the Jackson Hole Junction Plan, making certain findings, and establishing the Jackson Hole Junction revenue allocation area (the “Jackson Hole Junction Project Area”);

WHEREAS, the City Council, after notice duly published conducted a public hearing on the Urban Renewal Plan for the Pancheri East Bank Urban Renewal Project (“Pancheri East Bank Plan”);

WHEREAS, following said public hearing, the City Council adopted its Ordinance No. 3492 on November 10, 2022, approving the Pancheri East Bank Plan, making certain findings, and establishing the Pancheri East Bank Plan revenue allocation area (the “Pancheri East Bank Project Area”);

WHEREAS, the City Council, after notice duly published conducted a public hearing on the Urban Renewal Plan for the Anderson Bush Urban Renewal Project (“Anderson Bush Plan”);

WHEREAS, following said public hearing, the City Council adopted its Ordinance No. 3508 on March 30, 2023, approving the Anderson Bush Plan, making certain findings, and establishing the Anderson Bush Plan revenue allocation area (the “Anderson Bush Project Area”);

WHEREAS, the Agency Board approved the Urban Renewal Plan for the Stanley Boge Urban Renewal Project (the “Proposed Stanley Boge Plan”) including the Stanley Boge revenue allocation area (the “Proposed Stanley Boge Project Area”) at its meeting on July 20, 2023. The Proposed Stanley Boge Plan will be considered by the City Council fall 2023;

WHEREAS, the above referenced existing and proposed urban renewal plans are collectively referred to as the “Existing Urban Renewal Plans” and their respective existing and proposed revenue allocation project areas are collectively referred to as the “Existing Project Areas;”

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that additional property within the City may be deteriorating and/or deteriorated and should be examined as to whether such an area is eligible for urban renewal planning purposes;

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2023, the Agency adopted Resolution No. 2023-09 approving a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with Middle R Holdings, LLC, an Idaho limited liability company, which inter alia required Middle R Holdings, LLC to deposit certain funds to advance fund certain costs and fees related to the preparation and processing of an eligibility report;

WHEREAS, Middle R Holdings, LLC has made the necessary deposit as required by the MOU;

WHEREAS, in or around August 2023, the Agency engaged the services of Brad Cramer, MPA, AICP of Perspective Planning & Consulting, to commence an eligibility study and preparation of an eligibility report of an area approximately 29 acres in size, in the central portion of Idaho Falls, generally along the Northgate Mile and is bordered by the Union Pacific Railroad on the west, Higbee Avenue to the east, Cleveland Street to the south, and College Street to the north (the “Study Area”). The Study Area is south and east of the former stockyard property, which is now the site of the new Idaho Falls Police Station. All parcels in the Study Area are located within the City limits;

WHEREAS, the Agency has obtained the Northgate Mile Eligibility Study, dated September 2023 (the “Report”), a copy of which is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**, which examined the Study Area for the purpose of determining whether such area was a deteriorating area and/or a deteriorated area as defined by Idaho Code Sections 50-2018(8), (9) and 50-2903(8);

WHEREAS, pursuant to Idaho Code Sections 50-2018(8), (9) and 50-2903(8), which define the qualifying conditions of a deteriorating area and deteriorated area, many of the conditions necessary to be present in such an area are found in the Study Area, including:

- a. The presence of a substantial number of deteriorated or deteriorating structures; deterioration of site;
- b. predominance of defective or inadequate street layout;
- c. faulty lot layout in relation to size, adequacy, accessibility or usefulness/obsolete platting;
- d. diversity of ownership;
- e. insanitary or unsafe conditions;
- f. outmoded street patterns;
- g. unsuitable topography;
- h. age or obsolescence;
- i. lack of correlation of the area with other areas of the City by streets and modern traffic requirements;
- j. conditions which retard development of the area;
- k. economic disuse or underdeveloped property; and
- l. existence of conditions which endanger life or property by fire and other causes;

WHEREAS, the Study Area includes open space/open land;

WHEREAS, under the Act, a deteriorated area includes any area which is predominantly

open and which, because of obsolete platting, diversity of ownership, deterioration of structures or improvements, or otherwise, results in economic underdevelopment of the area or substantially impairs or arrests the sound growth of a municipality. *See* Idaho Code § 50-2903(8)(c);

WHEREAS, Idaho Code §§ 50-2018(8), (9), 50-2903(8) and 50-2008(d) list additional conditions applicable to open land areas, including open land areas to be acquired by the Agency, which are the same or similar to the conditions set forth in the definitions of “deteriorating area” and “deteriorating area;”

WHEREAS, while the Study Area is not predominantly open, the Report addresses the findings concerning including open land within any urban renewal area as defined in Idaho Code Sections 50-2018(9), 50-2903(8)(c), and 50-2008(d);

WHEREAS, the effects of the listed conditions cited in the Report result in economic underdevelopment of the area, substantially impairs or arrests the sound growth of a municipality, constitutes an economic or social liability, and is a menace to the public health, safety, morals or welfare in its present condition or use;

WHEREAS, under the Law and Act, Idaho Code Sections 50-2903(8)(f) and 50-2018(8) and (9), the definition of a deteriorating area shall not apply to any agricultural operation as defined in section 22-4502(2), Idaho Code, absent the consent of the owner of the agricultural operation except for an agricultural operation that has not been used for three (3) consecutive years;

WHEREAS, the Study Area does not include parcels subject to such consent;

WHEREAS, the Report includes a preliminary analysis concluding the base assessment roll value for the Study Area along with the combined base assessment roll values for the Existing Project Areas do not exceed 10% of the current assessed valuation of all taxable property within the City;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Idaho Code Section 50-2008, an urban renewal project may not be planned or initiated unless the local governing body has, by resolution, determined such area to be a deteriorated area or deteriorating area, or combination thereof, and designated such area as appropriate for an urban renewal project;

WHEREAS, Idaho Code Section 50-2906, also requires that in order to adopt an urban renewal plan containing a revenue allocation financing provision, the local governing body must make a finding or determination that the area included in such plan is a deteriorated area or deteriorating area;

WHEREAS, the Agency Board finds it in the best public interest to accept the Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE IDAHO FALLS REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That the above statements are true and correct.

Section 2. That the Agency Board acknowledges acceptance and receipt of the Report, attached hereto as “**EXHIBIT A**”, recognizing technical changes or corrections which may be required before transmittal to the City Council for its consideration.

Section 3. That there are one or more areas within the City that are a deteriorating area or a deteriorated area as defined by Idaho Code Sections 50-2018(8), (9) and 50-2903(8).

Section 4. That one such area is the Study Area, which is approximately 29 acres in size in the central portion of Idaho Falls, generally along the Northgate Mile and is bordered by the Union Pacific Railroad on the west, Higbee Avenue to the east, Cleveland Street to the south, and College Street to the north.

Section 5. That the rehabilitation, conservation, development and redevelopment, or a combination thereof, of such area is necessary in the interest of the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the City.

Section 6. That the Chair of the Agency Board of Commissioners or the Administrator, are hereby authorized to transmit the Report to the City Council requesting that the City Council:

- a. Determine whether the Study Area identified in the Report qualifies as an urban renewal project and there is justification for designating the area, as appropriate, for an urban renewal project; and
- b. If such designation is made, whether the Agency should proceed with the preparation of an urban renewal plan for the area, which plan may include a revenue allocation provision as allowed by law.

Section 7. That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its adoption and approval.

PASSED By the Idaho Falls Redevelopment Agency of the city of Idaho Falls, Idaho, on September 21, 2023. Signed by the Chair of the Board of Commissioners and attested by the Secretary to the Board of Commissioners, on September 21, 2023.

APPROVED:

By: _____
Lee Radford, Chair

ATTEST:

By _____
Terri Gazdik, Secretary

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