

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

City Moves Forward with Redevelopment of Mass Ave Fire Department Sites

INDIANAPOLIS (October 18, 2011) – Mayor Greg Ballard announced today that a Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued for the redevelopment of 555 N. New Jersey St., the current location of the Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD) administrative offices and IFD Station No. 7, and 501 N. New Jersey St., the current location of the Firefighters Credit Union.

“After gaining input from neighborhood residents, merchants and community development leaders, we are confident that an exciting mixed-use development project is feasible on this site. We are seeking a project that will not only strategically link the north and south ends of Mass Ave but will enhance the unique culture of this vibrant and growing district,” said Mayor Ballard.

All three facilities will be relocated to alternative sites if a project can be agreed upon by the City, the credit union and a private developer. No minimum price has been set for the sites, but only those proposals that are cost-neutral to public safety will be considered.

The city intends to move the IFD administrative offices to the historic IPS School No. 97 on the Near Eastside in partnership with the John H. Boner Community Center and the East 10th Street Civic Association. This architecturally and culturally significant building, once named by Indiana Landmarks as a Top 10 Most Endangered landmark, would not only serve as IFD’s headquarters but provide space for community gatherings and educational programs related to public safety.

Alternative sites for IFD Station No. 7 are currently being evaluated by IFD and the City. The site will be within a half-mile of the current location.

The RFP will be available online at <http://www.indy.gov/eGov/City/OFM/Purch/Bids/Pages/BiddingOpportunities.aspx> starting at 11 a.m. today. All questions should be sent to Jeff Luebker at CBRE via email at Jeff.Luebker@CBRE.com or by calling (317) 269-1100. Sealed written offers must be submitted to CBRE at 101 W. Washington St., Suite 1000 E, Indianapolis, IN 46204 no later than 5 p.m. Nov. 21. The proposals will then go through a thorough review process.

This project is the latest in a series of City-led redevelopment efforts, including the conversion of Bush Stadium to apartments and commercial space, the launch of the 16 Downtown Technology District, the demolition of Keystone Towers, the GM Stamping Plant reuse study, and the demolition of Winona Hospital.

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