

MOTION

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (LANLT), a non-profit organization, works to address the critical shortage of parks and green spaces in low-income communities of color within Los Angeles County. Their work aims to advance environmental justice, improve public health, and foster community resilience by creating safe and accessible green spaces. LANLT has added 22 acres of accessible green space to Los Angeles by helping create 30 parks and gardens since 2002.

LANLT has been working with the Watts Towers Arts Center (WTAC) and the local community for over a decade on project development to co-create a holistic design of the Watts Towers Arts Center Campus (WTACC). The WTACC is located in the heart of Watts, consists of five acres of land, and hosts the WTAC and the Charles Mingus Youth Arts Center (CMYAC).

LANLT, at its own expense, has created a development plan for the WTACC and is prepared to begin construction. The construction will include transforming the site into a welcoming cultural campus that includes a wellness walk, interactive play elements, an outdoor amphitheater, and California native shade trees and grassland gardens to welcome visitors of all ages.

Before LANLT can begin construction, the Bureau of Engineering (BOE) will review LANLT's development plans to ensure the designs comply with the City's public space design best practices. After gaining BOE's approval, LANLT may proceed with moving construction approvals through the City.

Portions of the WTACC are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), while other areas fall under the authority of the Department of General Services (GSD). In order for LANLT to enter and perform work in the areas under GSD's jurisdiction, GSD must be authorized to allow LANLT to access GSD's property.

The Department of Cultural Affairs will accept the donation of the services and completed facilities on site upon completion of work by the LANLT, and provide a plan and funding mechanism for ongoing maintenance and repairs on the completed site as part of the annual budget process.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council authorize the Department of General Services and the Recreation & Parks Department to grant, upon completion of the Bureau of Engineering's review and approval, an appropriate use rights agreement to the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust for access to the necessary areas at the Watts Towers Arts Center Campus to perform work needed for the development of the site in connection with the Watts Tower Arts Center Campus project.

PRESENTED BY:

TIM McOSKER

Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:

Heather Hull

ORIGINAL

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