



## COUNCILMEMBER CHRISTOPHER WARD

### MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 9, 2019

TO: Mayor Kevin Faulconer

FROM: Councilmember Chris Ward

SUBJECT: Relocation of City Operations to Kearny Mesa Repair Facility

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The community of Golden Hill has been home to the City's Central Operations Yard since 1920. Located at the intersection of 20th and B Streets, adjacent to downtown, the approximately 19-acre site has 7 acres designated for residential use and 12 acres designated as parkland for Balboa Park in the current community plan and Balboa Park Master Plan. To the north on Pershing Drive in Balboa Park, the Arizona Landfill has been operating as a 70-acre parking lot and storage yard for more than 150 City vehicles. It has long been a desire of Golden Hill and North Park residents to see these properties revitalized, park space reinstated in line with the Balboa Park Master Plan, and residential development consistent with the adopted Golden Hill Community Plan.

During the May 3, 2019 Budget Review Hearing, the City's Director of Fleet Operations noted that the Kearny Mesa Repair Facility occupies a 6-acre site which can be utilized by "city departments as needs come up." This site could currently accommodate the vehicle maintenance activities currently occurring at 20th and B Street as well as the parking and storage operations at the Arizona Landfill. Relocation of these two operations could consolidate City Fleet Operations, while creating much-needed housing and park space opportunities for our communities.

As the City's Fleet Operations Department moves forward in FY 2020 to design and permit the Kearny Mesa Repair Facility at 8048-8050 Othello Avenue for heavy-duty vehicles, I request that relocation of the Golden Hill Central Operations Yard, including staff and operations, and the Arizona Landfill operations yard be analyzed and prioritized.

According to the Golden Hill Community Plan, "The City's Central Operations Yard is split between the Golden Hill community and Balboa Park, and the plans for this area envision redevelopment of the site to other uses. The Golden Hill portion is designated for multifamily development (RM-3-7 zoning) with a neighborhood serving commercial component, while the portion within Balboa Park is identified by the East Mesa Precise Plan for the development of the Pershing Recreation Complex, a multi-use sports park that will

also include picnic areas, parking, gateway plantings, trails to Golden Hill Park, and a pedestrian bridge across Pershing Drive.”

The Kearny Mesa Repair Facility presents a unique opportunity to fulfill the vision of the Golden Hill Community Plan, and further the implementation of the Balboa Park Master Plan, and I ask that staff consider this as they work to finalize the design of this facility.

CC:

Cybele Thompson, Director of Real Estate Assets

Alia Khouri, Director of Fleet Operations

Jessica Lawrence, Director of Council Affairs, Office of the Mayor