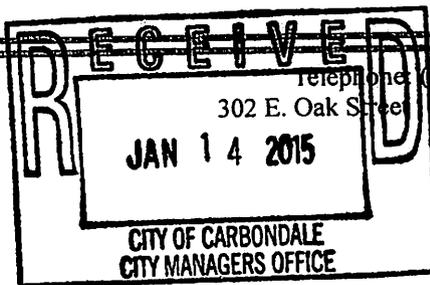


## Request for City Council Action

Date: August 11, 2015

<b>Agenda Section:</b> Public Hearings & Special Reports  <b>No. 4</b>	<b>Originating Department:</b>  City Manager			
<b>Item:</b> Public Hearing on the Proposed Sale/ Donation of City-owned Property Located at 410 East Chestnut and 411 East Birch Street to Common Greens, Inc.  <b>No. 4.1</b>	<b>Approved:</b>			
<p><b>Background:</b></p> <p>Sorrell Kunath, President of Common Greens, Inc., has requested the City donate the property located at 410 East Chestnut and 411 East Birch Streets to enable the creation of a large community garden complex as described in the attached letter.</p> <p>The Carbondale Revised Code establishes the process for the sale of City-owned property for economic development purposes. A notice of the proposed land sale must be published at least 7 days, but no longer than 30 days, prior to a public hearing before the City Council. The notice was published in the <i>Southern Illinoisan</i> on August 4, 2015.</p> <p>City staff have evaluated the values of the surrounding parcels and placed a value of \$3,500 on this parcel.</p> <p><b>Recommended Action:</b></p> <p>Staff recommends the City Council hold a Public Hearing to hear testimony in favor of or in opposition to the sale/ donation of said real estate. An ordinance authorizing the sale/ donation of the real estate to Common Greens, Inc. will be considered later in the agenda.</p>				
Engineering Approval Obtained	Finance Approval Obtained	Legal Approval Obtained	Approval Obtained	Manager's Approval Obtained
Council Action: Motion by _____ 2nd by _____ to _____				

Common Greens, Inc.  
www.commongreens.org



January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Dear City Council Members,

Common Greens, Inc. is interested in acquiring a vacant lot (pin:15-16-478-015), currently owned by the City of Carbondale, to create a large community garden complex adjacent to the Eurma C. Hayes Community Center. Common Greens recently acquired two adjoining parcels (pin:15-16-478-006 and 15-16-478-007) west of this parcel through a Jackson County surplus property auction in order to create a community garden. Acquiring this lot will benefit the community by increasing access to fresh, locally grown food and enable our organization to provide participants with the skills, expertise, and training to become key players in strengthening our local food system. Further, the donation of this parcel would unburden the City of Carbondale from the costs of mowing, maintenance and insurance.

In June 2014, Common Greens leased an office at the Eurma C. Hayes Community Center and has partnered with the Center to use its certified kitchen and other facilities to develop a local food hub for canning, processing, distributing, and storing food. Common Greens, Inc. had the opportunity over the past three years to prove our success at creating a viable community garden on a vacant lot, previously owned by the City, located at 301 N. Marion St., and the project was phenomenal, resulting in community participation exceeding the original projections, as well as the receipt of a Carbondale Bright Spot Award. We intend to match that success with the proposed project. Common Greens, Inc. is requesting the City Council to donate this parcel to our 501 c (3) charitable organization for the purposes stated herein.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Sorrel Kunath, President  
Common Greens, Inc.  
302 E. Oak Street  
Carbondale, IL 62901  
Tel (618) 303-0703

Eurma C. Hays Community Center

East Birch Street

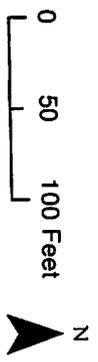
East Chestnut Street

15-16-478-006

15-16-478-007

15-16-478-015

North Robert A. Stalls Avenue



Recently Acquired  
By Common Greens, Inc.

City Owned Property