

From: Pollard, Michael

Sent: Monday, December 14, 2020 4:49 PM

To: Jacobson, Jonathan; Blessing, Ralph; Martin, David

Cc: Anger, Cynthia

Subject: RE: South End Fire House; Installation of Police Substation and Duration of Substation at Location.

Rep. Jacobson, my apology for the delay in our response to your request for additional information. We have reviewed the history of the sale of the South End Firehouse and the desire of the City administration as it relates to reestablishing a police substation.

As you may be aware, prior to the sale of the Firehouse to BLT, there were multiple RFPs (4) which failed to result in a suitable buyer for the City. The agreed to terms of the BLT sale resulted in a commitment from BLT to preserve the historic character of the structure but did not include a requirement for a police substation. While the possibility of a substation was discussed by the City prior to and during the final sales process, it was not a priority based on the current community policing strategy at that time. From earlier discussions with former SPC Chief Fountnau and current Chief Shaw, the focus on increasing police visibility in high priority sites such as schools, parks, and other public venues would prove more effective at deterring criminal behavior.

We recently reviewed with BLT their future plans for the building, it can be used for neighborhood, compatible uses including residential neighborhood commercial or community facilities. It is our understanding that BLT is currently seeking an occupant.

Let us know if you have other questions or would like additional details.

Regards,
Michael