



City of Tracy
333 Civic Center Plaza
Tracy, CA 95376

Memorandum

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

MAIN 209.831.6000
FAX 209.831.6120
www.cityoftracy.org

Date: February 3, 2022
To: Mayor and Council Members
From: Michael Rogers, City Manager
Via: Brian MacDonald, Director of Parks & Recreation
CC: Jolene Jauregui, Recreation Services Manager
Subject: Veterans of Foreign Wars, Council Follow Up #430

This memo is in response to City Council Follow Up #430: Partner with VFW to find location for a future building/home for the organization.

In late 2019, City staff and members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) were in talks to formalize an unwritten partnership between the two groups. The intent was to formalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that allowed the City and VFW to enter into a public/private partnership. During these discussions, the VFW had made it clear they were looking for a permanent home. City staff were able to, through the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City and the VFW, find City facilities for them to conduct monthly meetings and hold events. However, the VFW continues their pursuit to find a permanent home, which is why they came to Council on July 6, 2021.

On July 14, 2021, staff from the Parks and Recreation and Economic Development departments met with the VFW to talk about their request and to get more information. At this meeting, the VFW made it clear they are in search of a home and would like the City's assistance. During this meeting, they brought up the Westside Market as a possible location and staff informed them of the prior Council direction to encourage densification and tenants in the retail or restaurant industry.

Following conversations with City Staff and representatives of the VFW, Economic Development Manager Michael Nimon received verbal confirmation from VFW Commander Bob Carpenter in September 2021 that the VFW was no longer interested in the Westside Market and is no longer seeking to partner with the City. Economic Development staff confirmed that VFW is working with Mike Sandhu on development of land in unincorporated South Tracy for a future VFW building.