

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: 01/09/12		Item Number: <u>A-1</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of a Request from the Culver Hotel Related to Use of the Public Right-of-Way (Town Plaza) as Part of the Proposed West Coast Documentary and Reality Conference (Westdoc)			
Contact Person/Dept.: Martin R. Cole, Assistant City Manager		Phone Number: 310.253.6000	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: (E-Mail) Agendas and Meetings – City Council (01/06/12); Culver Hotel (01/06/12)			
Department Approval: Martin R. Cole (01/06/12)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (01/06/12)	
Chief Financial Officer: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (01/06/12)		City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (01/06/12)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council consider a request from the Culver Hotel related to use of the public right-of-way (Town Plaza) as part of the proposed West Coast Documentary and Reality Conference (Westdoc Conference) and direct the City Manager as deemed appropriate. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> During the City Council meeting of December 12, 2011, the City Council was addressed by Mr. Seth Horowitz, General Manager of the Culver Hotel. Mr. Horowitz advised the City Council of the potential of the Westdoc Conference coming to Culver City in September, 2012. As part of his presentation, Mr. Horowitz estimated that the hosting of the Westdoc Conference in Culver City would be beneficial to the Culver Hotel, the Pacific Theaters, and to the City in general. He requested assistance from the City and the Redevelopment Agency. It is estimated the event, previously held in the City of Santa Monica, will bring to Culver City 300 persons over four days, fill up the hotel and use the theaters. Mr. Horowitz is requesting the ability to make use of the public space between the Culver Hotel and the Pacific Theaters, consisting of a non-exclusive use of several chairs and tables that would be set up in order to make the area between the Hotel and Theaters “mesh” and create one large event space. According to Mr. Horowitz, Pacific Theaters supports the proposal.			

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He requested consideration of this proposal by the City Council and the Redevelopment Agency. The City Council concurred to hear more about this proposal at this meeting.

DISCUSSION:

Pending further discussion, staff believes the mechanism needed for the City to participate in this proposal with the Culver Hotel and the Pacific Theaters is for Westdoc to be a City-sponsored or co-sponsored event. Staff and Mr. Horowitz have had preliminary discussions regarding this issue and have confirmed that this event would not conflict with the dates of the IndieCade event. If the City Council supports this proposal in concept this evening and directs the City Manager to enter into formal discussions with the Culver Hotel, the Pacific Theaters, and the Downtown Business Association, then an item will be prepared for the City Council's consideration on Monday, January 23, 2012 that would provide specific details of the proposal, including the costs to the City (if any).

Mr. Horowitz has indicated he and others (including representatives from Westdoc) will be present at the City Council meeting to provide additional comments to the City Council.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

There is no material fiscal impact associated with formalizing discussions between the City, the Culver Hotel and other parties regarding this subject. Should the City Council approve this request in concept this evening, the staff report presented to the City Council on January 23, 2012 would include the fiscal impacts related to the event.

ATTACHMENT:

None.

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. Consider the request, in concept, to participate in formal discussions with the Culver Hotel, the Pacific Theaters, and the Downtown Business Association related to the Westdoc Conference and provide further direction to the City Manager in this regard;

OR

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2. Determine to take no action (in which case staff would take no further action on the request).