



To: Mayor Davis and Council Members

From: The North of Montana Association

Date: July 17, 2023

RE: Items 3 E and 3 F on the July 19 Council agenda

The NOMA Board asks that Items 3 E and F be removed from consideration.

Allowing negotiations to begin (or a “process” of negotiations) between the City and private or other public entities to “sell” or “lease” city-owned land without the public’s participation in that discussion is neither democratic nor acceptable and a disheartening violation of trust with its citizens.

The Santa Monica Civic Auditorium has been an important community asset since the early 1960s. It has been landmarked by the Council and has been recognized as a venue for plays, concerts, craft shows, conventions, the Academy Awards, and numerous other events. The future of this unique event center needs to be decided by open discussion and public participation, not in closed session.

Accordingly, the NOMA Board requests that items 3 E and F be removed from the Agenda and consideration of the Civic’s future be fully transparent and in public open session.

The NOMA Board