

CITY COUNCIL REPORT

DATE: February 27, 2019

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers, Department Directors, City Manager

FROM: David Carranza, Community & Economic Development

CC: Jerene Watson, Interim City Manager, Department Directors

SUBJECT: DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION-UPDATE ON THE “OWL” BUILDING, OWNED BY MR. GALINOS on G AVENUE @ 11TH.

The report is in response to a question from Councilmember Grijalva regarding the work on the façade of the building located on the NEC of G Avenue at 11th.

DISCUSSION:

Several years ago as part of the work plan in Economic Development and Redevelopment, a facades project for older, often vacant buildings in downtown was initiated. Funds to work on the facades come from a Real Estate fund approved for use in restoring or enhancing the exterior of downtown buildings. .

Some discussion with the Douglas Area Real Estate group was had last year, but their preferred metal or laminated wood structures placed over the windows proved to be too costly. In the end, local art enthusiast, Jose Pedro Teran, has brought collaboration from the historic Williams House board and CAS students in designing what would look and work best for the vacant upper windows. A painted black backdrop on the upper windows will complement banners with scenes depicting themes of the area and region (see following) The work in the upper windows that you may see this week has been donated by APS who has the equipment to the height necessary for painting the backdrop..

On the planning horizon is the façade of the Irene building just south of 9th Street. Preliminary discussions on the work to be done there involves a connection to the historical element from the Jewish history of Douglas in an era where that heritage was a prominent part of this special community.

RECOMMENDATION / CONCLUSION:

This report is for information only.