

## Council Meeting Staff Report

July 30, 2019

---

<b>Agenda No.:</b>	C.
<b>Indexes (Council Goals):</b>	* 2019 Council Goal - Other
<b>Presenters:</b>	Harry Burgess
<b>Legislative File:</b>	12172-19

---

### Title

Consideration of Acquisition of Real Property at 1725 17th Street; Los Alamos, NM

### Recommended Action

**I move that Council approve and authorize the County to purchase and acquire in fee simple real property located at 1725 17th Street, Los Alamos, NM for \$600,000; hereby direct and authorize the County Manager to enter and execute any and all documents and agreements necessary for the County to purchase and acquire fee simple title to this real property, and further ratify any agreement entered by the County Manager to purchase and acquire fee simple title to this real property.**

### County Manager's Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that Council approve the acquisition of real property as requested.

### Body

During the Manhattan Project, a 20 person dormitory was built. The construction drawings are dated April 1943 and the current address of the building is 1725 17<sup>th</sup> Street. This particular dormitory was used to house members of the Women's Army Corp (WAC). In the "Enabling Legislation for Manhattan Project National Historical Park (MPNHP)," the eligible areas are defined for each site. For Los Alamos, "the former dormitory located at 1725 17<sup>th</sup> Street" is specifically noted. In the MPNHP Foundation Document (January 2017), the Women's Army Corp Dormitory was identified in the related resources at Los Alamos as "park-eligible in the park legislation but not within the current park boundary." Basically, the WAC dormitory is park-eligible but is currently not in the park.

Recently, the County was approached by the owner of the property (Christian Science Society) that they wanted to sell the property. Staff evaluated the property and have briefed Council on acquisition and renovation costs. Although no specific use of the property has been determined yet, the fact that the building is one of the few remaining buildings that were built and used during the Manhattan Project makes it highly desirable.

The purchase agreement being considered by Council will be distributed at the Council meeting. If this action is approved, the County Manager will proceed with the necessary negotiations and steps to close on the property.

### Alternatives

Council could not approve this acquisition and risk losing this historic building.

### Fiscal and Staff Impact/Unplanned Item

The cost of the property will be covered using General Fund balance and a Budget Revision will be brought to Council next month.

### Attachments

Purchase Agreement (distributed at meeting)