



City of La Quinta

TO: The Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Chris Escobedo, Assistant to City Manager

DATE: April 7, 2015

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON OLD TOWN ARTISAN STUDIO

The City is working with Old Town Artisan Studio (OTAS) to establish an Arts and Education Center in the Village. OTAS is interested in purchasing property generally located north east of Francis Hack Park. Staff has drafted a Purchase and Sale Agreement and will route it to OTAS by April 9, 2015.

In order to build the Center, OTAS must raise the necessary funds to construct the building and its associated improvements. They formed a fundraising committee, have revamped their website, and are in the process of updating their marketing materials in advance of their formal fundraising drive.

Staff has a standing meeting with the Executive Director of OTAS every two weeks (Friday at 2:00 p.m.) to discuss any relevant matters to this effort including pre-entitlement process, fundraising, and the draft agreement. The agreement will be brought forth to City Council for consideration in June 2015.

In addition, OTAS is looking to move their studio from 51105 Avenida Villa, Suite 101, to 78-134 Calle Tampico, which is the shopping center adjacent to Embassy Suites and Old Town. This will provide them more square footage on a single floor to accommodate more art-based programs. It is a part of OTAS' three-year plan to accommodate immediate needs in anticipation of their permanent new home in the Village.

