



CARE Center Proposes Brockway Compromise

The CARE Center announced this afternoon that it will accept an offer by the Oklahoma City Redevelopment Authority (OCURA) to purchase the home formerly known as the Brockway Center, provided OCURA will move the house to land it already owns in the neighborhood.

OCURA first offered to purchase the home from The CARE Center this morning, outlining in its purchase offer that the house is significant to the neighborhood.

“OCURA already owns land in the neighborhood where it could settle the house,” said CARE Center CEO Stacy McNeiland. “The house can not be safely renovated to meet the needs of the CARE Center, but that doesn’t mean it doesn’t have value or purpose for someone else. We need the full lot for The CARE Center, and OCURA already owns land in the neighborhood. We believe this is a compromise that will serve the needs of everyone involved.”

OCURA formally offered to purchase the house this morning for \$350,000. Under the terms of OCURA’s offer, the CARE Center would’ve retained the back half of the lot, which is currently a parking lot.

“Building on the existing parking lot would make us non-compliant on specific safety standards, including parking requirements, lot coverage regulations and fire separation requirements established by the Capitol Medical Zoning Commission (CMZ),” McNeiland said. “While we could apply for variances, there is no guarantee those variances would be granted. That’s simply not a viable option for our nonprofit.”

The CARE Center sent a formal counteroffer to OCURA this afternoon, accepting the \$350,000 purchase price already offered by OCURA. In addition to the requirement that OCURA move the structure, the CARE Center is also asking OCURA to support the CARE Center’s request to remove additional CMZ committee reviews and assist with the nonprofit’s legal bills that have resulted from a lengthy review process.

"We have appeared before the CMZ and its committees five times," McNeiland said. "The CMZ granted our demolition permit on May 22, and after a long process, we believe we are within our legal rights to move forward.

"OCURA wants the structure and the CARE Center needs the land. We have asked OCURA to respond in good faith by 5 p.m. today. We are hopeful that they will agree that this is a solution that benefits everyone."

The CARE Center is Oklahoma County's only child advocacy center providing services including forensic interviews, family advocacy, mental health services, medical exams resource referrals and abuse prevention education. Children involved in active abuse investigations go to The CARE Center to tell their story in an age-appropriate, non-leading interview that is recorded and used throughout the investigation.

More information about The CARE Center is available at www.carecenter-okc.org.