

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
SUMMARY FOR THE LEGISLATIVE FILE  
ORDINANCE NO: 65-2019**

**Project Name:** Henry W. Longfellow School  
**Project Address:** 650 East 140<sup>th</sup> Street, Cleveland, OH 44110 (Henry W. Longfellow School property)  
1465 Addison Road, Cleveland, OH 44103 (City owned property)  
**Project Manager:** Cassie Slansky  
**Ward/Councilperson:** 8- Polensek and 7- Jones

**Project Summary and Discussion**

The Henry W. Longfellow School, located at 650 East 140<sup>th</sup> Street was built in 1924 and served as an elementary school in the Collinwood neighborhood for over 85 years. In 2010, the Cleveland Metropolitan School District (CMSD) closed the school and planned for the abatement and demolition of the building.

Upon CMSD's decision to demolish the Longfellow School building, the Cleveland Restoration Society (CRS) expressed concerns and requested that CMSD hold off on the demolition. CRS suggested redevelopment of the building to preserve its historical attributes and unique architectural features. With the consent and collaboration of CMSD, CRS submitted an RFP and received multiple proposals to redevelop the building.

Together, CMSD and CRS selected Vesta Corporation (Vesta) to do the redevelopment. Vesta will be partnering with Marous Brothers Construction on the redevelopment of the Longfellow School building. Vesta has successfully completed multiple large scale housing redevelopment projects in Ohio, Washington DC, and Connecticut.

Vesta has proposed to redevelop the school into an affordable senior housing community. They plan for the creation of 93 units of senior affordable apartment homes. 30 units will be constructed within the Longfellow building and an additional 63 new units will be constructed in a new building on the land. The redevelopment of this site will create a mix of 70 one-bedroom and 23 two-bedroom affordable senior housing units. This redevelopment project will also address the needs of low-income seniors who lack the access to high-quality affordable senior housing.

CMSD is willing to transfer the Henry W. Longfellow School building located at 650 East 140<sup>th</sup> Street, to the City of Cleveland or its designee Vest Corporation in exchange for the City of Cleveland transferring the City owned property located at 1465 Addison Road, Cleveland, OH 44103 to CMSD. This City owned property is adjacent to the CMSD's Wade Park pre-K-8<sup>th</sup> grade school and will be utilized to alleviate parking issues at the school.