

MEDIA RELEASE
URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY, CITY OF MOUNTAIN HOME
JUNE 18, 2018

At Monday's regularly scheduled meeting, the Urban Renewal Agency agreed to purchase property within the URA area at 195 North 2nd East, more commonly referred to as "The Hub Building". In addition, they agreed to purchase the vacant lot directly across the street. The agreement is scheduled to close on August 31st.

"We are very pleased that we were able to reach an agreement with Sands, LLC. to procure these properties from the Sheer family. The Hub was a thriving successful clothing store for decades operated by Frank Sheer and his family. It was somewhat of an anchor in downtown Mountain Home" said Alan Bermensolo, Chairman of the URA Board.

When asked why the URA is buying the empty building and vacant lot, he said. "The URA's mission is to promote sustainable economic development and community enhancements through partnerships and public/private investment within the Urban Renewal Area. We believe that the Hub has great potential to again become an anchor in the center of downtown. We will work with the City's Economic Development Office and commercial developers to find the right business to occupy that building. Just as with the Beall's Department store, we have the financial ability to renovate it for the right business that will commit to a long term lease."

When asked about the vacant lot across the street he said, "By late fall you will see a paved lot with minor landscaping that will provide free public parking. We feel this will help alleviate citizen concerns regarding the lack of downtown parking as the City moves forward with their Downtown Master Plan. We are also going to install the electrical infrastructure for sound and lights needed to support a gathering place for events such as Boise's Alive after Five food and music event".

The Urban Renewal Agency is a taxing district independent of the City. Its Board consists of: Hampton Wright, Mary Morin, Matt Bundy, Alain Isaac and Alan Bermensolo.