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# Chamber eyes vacant building

By Ron Eland  
LARSON NEWSPAPERS

The Sedona City Council gave its blessing for the Sedona Chamber of Commerce to proceed with the purchase of a vacant building on 401 Jordan Road.

Even though a formal vote was not taken on March 15, council was clear that the purchase of the building is a smart move with a wide array of possible uses in the future. But in the meantime, it can be used for additional free parking in the Uptown area.

The plans calls for the chamber to use product development funds — via bed tax revenue — and pay it off in the next three years. It would then be turned over to the city at that point or further down the road when it's deemed appropriate.

According to a chamber report, the initial project goal is to “provide free parking spaces for visitors, relieving demand on 89A in the Uptown region. The property is located one block from the city’s current municipal parking area and the soon-to-be installed elevator to SR 89A, next to Wayside Chapel.

“This solution provides additional free parking spaces, with good ADA accessibility in Uptown, and responds to concerns regarding transition to 101 paid parking spaces along SR 89A. Minimal initial improvements would be made to the property in order to evaluate the usage of the spots once available for free parking.”

Chamber President and CEO Jennifer Wesselhoff said the cost of the 5,200-square-foot building [which includes a \$50,000 upgrade to parking] is \$1,015,000. A down payment of \$390,000 would be made with the remaining amount to be paid off by 2020. The property is in escrow and the chamber must move forward on the purchase by the end of May.

Following the meeting, Wesselhoff said she was pleased with the council’s decision and looks forward to working with residents and stakeholders in the area to explore the best use of the property.

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an Reece/Larson Newspapers  
resident for the Rotary Club  
club celebrated 15 years in  
ting at Sedona Rouge.

## years

work as a pilot kept him  
ending enough meetings.  
and long been involved in her  
aries, but this was her first  
ing-  
lived off the grid in Hawaii

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### Paddy's Lunch