

**CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

November 15, 2006

CALL TO ORDER: 4:10 P.M.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Michael L. Montandon
Mayor Pro Tempore William E. Robinson
Councilwoman Stephanie S. Smith
Councilman Shari Buck
Councilman Robert L. Eliason

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Gregory Rose
Assistant City Manager Sam Chambers
Assistant City Manager Maryann Ustick
City Attorney Sean McGowan
City Clerk Karen L. Storms
Communications Director Brenda Johnson
Fire Chief Al Gillespie
Parks and Recreation Director Mike Henley
Police Chief Mark Paresi
Acting Public Works Director Qiong Liu
Utilities Director David Bereskin
Executive Assistant to the City Manager Kenny Young
Chief Deputy City Clerk Anita Sheldon

VERIFICATION: Karen L. Storms, CMC
City Clerk

Councilman Eliason entered Chambers at 4:13 P.M.

BUSINESS:

- 1. PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND/OR DIRECTION ON PROPOSED DESIGN GUIDELINES AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS WITH NOVEMBER 2005 LAND INVESTORS, LLC AND DRHI, INC. (OLYMPIA GROUP).**

ACTION: WITHDRAWN

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson
SECOND: Councilwoman Smith
AYES: Mayor Montandon, Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Council Members Smith,
Buck and Eliason
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

2. PRESENTATION ON THE CENTENNIAL-STATZ MULTI GENERATION CENTER PARK ALTERNATIVES AND BUILDING PROGRAM.

Parks and Recreation Director Mike Henley stated the City's design consultants would present on the Centennial-Statz Multi Generation Center Park Alternatives and Building Program.

Director Henley stated there were three concepts for the construction of a new 40 acre community park and requested Council's approval to conduct a community workshop to gather public input on the project.

Denise Cook, Lucchesi Galati Architects, 500 Pilot Road, Suite A, Las Vegas, stated the park site was bordered by Centennial Parkway, Statz Street, Rome Boulevard and Palmer Street. She explained there were existing single family homes to the west and south; C-1 Commercial at the corner of Centennial Parkway and Statz Street; future multi-family development near the northeast corner; and construction had begun on a large multi-family development across from Centennial Parkway and Statz Street. In addition, along Centennial Parkway, there was a tie to the Regional Trail System.

Ms. Cook stated the project's vision was to build awareness, knowledge and motivation to improve the value of wellness within the community. The project's mission statement was to promote wellness and enhance quality of life of the community by providing recreational, cultural, social, and educational wellness opportunities in a safe and accessible environment. She stated the overall guiding principles were to welcome all ages for a safe and secure experience with a strong sense of place.

Ms. Cook stated the objective of the project was a 100,000 square foot recreation center with an initial building phase of 40,000 square feet. The overall project budget was \$19 million and the construction budget was approximately \$13.7 million; therefore, about \$6 million would be available for Phase I. Director Henley stated the \$6 million was immediately available for funding park improvements and had been collected from residential construction taxes.

Director Henley explained the proposed Police Department Area Command Center was planned to be built on 4.5 acres of the park site; however, it was not part of the construction budget at this point.

Mayor Montandon asked City Manager Rose if the funding for the Police Department Area Command Center would come from the proposed \$55 million bond. City Manager Rose stated there would be a temporary facility built initially at Pecos Road and Centennial Parkway, and a long-term funding source would be identified later for construction of a permanent facility.

Ms. Cook stated the consultants would present three alternatives for the park's development and requested Council's approval to move forward for public comment.

Larry Ryan, RJM Design Group Inc., 31591 Camino Capistrano, San Juan Capistrano, California, stated on October 19, 2006, a design charette had been held where the information pertaining to the site in terms of opportunities, constraints and infrastructure had been presented.

Mr. Ryan explained the park's Master Plan had three schemes, each with an emphasis area; however, each scheme would promote a park-like area with about 33% of open space.

Mr. Ryan further explained Scheme A included baseball fields, basketball courts and volleyball courts; Scheme B included soccer fields, basketball courts and volleyball courts; and Scheme C included an expanded pool and deck area; tennis courts, basketball courts, volleyball courts and a skate park.

Mr. Ryan stated each scheme would have basic program elements of a 100,000 square foot multi-generation center with 500 parking units; a 4.5 acre police facility area; preservation of the wash area; an outdoor aquatics area; about 33% of passive area; an informal gathering area; a playground; group picnic areas; and a circuitous walking path.

Mayor Montandon asked Mr. Ryan to describe the fieldhouse in Scheme C and he explained it was a separate building for the gymnasium and indoor basketball.

Mr. Ryan explained the design charette workshop activities helped identify the "likes" and "dislikes" of the proposed site. The "likes" included the view to the north, the natural habitat/land and access to the park. The "dislikes" included the visual impact of the cell tower, the power lines to the south, and lack of trail connections to the adjacent residential developments.

Mr. Ryan stated the desired character for the park was to create a town center; integrate the natural habitat with multi-use sports facilities and create a social gathering space.

Mr. Ryan explained although the police facility would not be built at this time, a design for the facility had been put in place using a footprint of an existing police facility.

Mr. Ryan explained the promenade in Scheme A would link the recreation building with the park; the parking and drop off would be located on either side of the promenade; the pool would be nestled in the southwest corner of the site; the playground would be designed with a theme; and the garden spaces would have a simple, granite walk with native stone and a water feature.

Mr. Ryan further explained the ball field in Scheme A would be designed for public safety; however, there would be no fences or netting. The hub of the ball field would contain a restroom/concession building and be related to the promenade. The heart of the park would be designed around the promenade and could be used for a variety of activities, including basketball and informal play areas.

Mr. Ryan explained Scheme B would have a variety of internally located aquatics, married with garden spaces and open play soccer fields. The activity areas would be organized with a circular loop creating a promenade around the entire park. He added there would also be an option for a dog park.

Mayor Montandon stated a distinct separation with a high fence between the pool and the garden spaces would be needed for safety reasons. Mr. Ryan replied the back door of the garden space could be designed with a stair step wall to the pool to separate the two areas.

Mayor Montandon stated there was not enough space for restrooms and locker rooms with the design in Scheme B. Mr. Ryan responded that was a good point to consider because parks without enough restrooms, locker rooms and guard shack operations adjacent to the pool are harder for the City to manage.

Mr. Ryan explained Scheme C would have a recreation center, a pool/aquatics building and a fieldhouse. He further explained there were areas near the pool which could be reserved for special events; the recreation center would have an amphitheater with parking to the south; the fieldhouse area would have a gymnasium and directly adjacent would be a hard court area for tennis, basketball, volleyball and a skate park.

Ms. Cook advised the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board had voted unanimously to move forward with the public meeting. She stated several Board members had liked Scheme C with the fieldhouse separated from the recreation building because the seniors would be separated from the teens. However, others felt it would be better to have separate entrances into one multi-generational building.

Director Henley stated the City had acquired an approximate 20 acre park site about five years ago at Tropical Parkway and Bruce Street, next to Johnson Middle School, and the City had about \$8 million for its development. Mayor Montandon stated the development of the site at Tropical Parkway and Bruce Street needed to be coordinated with the development of the site at Centennial Parkway and Statz Street.

Director Henley stated the City would work with the Clark County School District to develop sports fields at Tropical Parkway and Bruce Street, and for use of the facilities at Johnson Middle School.

Mayor Montandon stated if the City had coordinated sports fields at Johnson Middle School, he would favor Scheme C for the site at Centennial Parkway and Statz Street. Mayor Montandon felt that it would better to have a fieldhouse at one end of the park for teens and a senior center at the other end, rather than one building with two entrances. He also liked the basketball court near the police facility and a modular skate park.

Director Henley stated funds were available to intensify the sports fields at Tropical Parkway and Bruce Street, and to begin park improvements at Centennial Parkway and Statz Street.

Councilman Buck felt all age groups should share one multi-generation center because less staff would be required with only one building.

Director Henley stated the key to a successful multi-generation center would be to manage the rhythm of the activities during the day, as opposed to how it was designed. For instance, in a community with year round schools, there would typically be older residents using the facility during the week from Monday to Friday. He stated the public would be polled for their opinion on whether or not to have a multi-generation center separated by ages.

Councilwoman Smith expressed favor of Scheme C with the buildings separated by uses instead of ages. She also liked the amphitheater and disliked the skate park.

Director Henley suggested the skate park could be planned; however, the City could make a final determination later after learning how the skate park worked out at Sandstone Ridge Park. Councilman Eliason agreed and expressed caution about building a skate park.

Councilman Eliason asked Ms. Cook if residents had concerns about safety and security at the park. Ms. Cook responded the residents had expressed relief with those concerns when they learned of the future police facility. Director Henley stated the City's friendly customer service approach to greeting residents also helped promote positive feelings of safety and security.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson asked Ms. Cook if the feasibility study had been citywide. She responded it had been citywide, and it also had extended outside the City limits by about two miles because people go to a park near where they lived without realizing the city limits.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson asked Ms. Cook to explain what questions had been on the poll. Ms. Cook stated the poll had been a needs assessment to find out what kind of activities people wanted and needed.

Councilman Eliason stated he liked the pool facing the street with an open-feeling fence. Director Henley stated people were attracted to seeing other people having fun and agreed with the open-feeling fence for the pool.

Director Henley requested Council's approval to move forward to the November 28th Community Workshop for presentation of the three concepts to the public. Mayor Montandon recommended the public be informed at that time of the site at Tropical Parkway and Bruce Street.

ACTION: PRESENTATION MADE

PUBLIC FORUM

Dean Leavitt, 918 Dawn Valley Drive, North Las Vegas, spoke in support of the park project.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:13 P.M.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson

SECOND: Councilwoman Smith

AYES: Mayor Montandon, Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson, Council Members Smith, Buck and Eliason

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED: January 17, 2007

Mayor Michael L. Montandon

ATTEST:

Karen L. Storms, CMC
City Clerk