

quarter of the current fiscal year was 44% or 150 shoulder miles and Civic Center was added on a weekly basis. He showed some slides of the cleanup process. The Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services Pilot Program would address 136 shoulder miles of local streets south of Carey Avenue by June 30, 2007 and would concentrate the initial cleanup and maintenance on the areas that required most attention. He stated they would dedicate three to five days a month to assist seniors, low income, and disabled property owners to correct code violations; implement a volunteer program to help organize and conduct neighborhood cleanups; and partner with Neighborhood Housing Services to implement a tool lending program. They had covered 95% of the 136 shoulder miles of local streets south of Carey Avenue. A number of signs had been abated and graffiti incident reactive numbers had increased. There were 35 taggers apprehended. One thing looked at were the number of community service workers utilized which augmented the number of hours, utilized 499 workers and contributed 3900 hours of work. For each hour worked, they worked off \$10.00 of their fine per hour. Other projects included fire zone curb painting.

Mr. Young explained there were inter-departmental projects with Public Works, City of Las Vegas Rapid Response, North Las Vegas Municipal Court, Code Enforcement, Police Department, Neighborhood Housing Services of Southern Nevada and Republic Services of Southern Nevada to clean up homeless camps, vacant lots, and placement of barriers and signs.

Councilman Eliason questioned whether the grass was being sprayed and Mr. Young explained it was being done.

ACTION: UPDATE GIVEN.

2. 40 BLOCK COMPREHENSIVE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROJECT PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION.

Assistant City Manager Ustick explained the Police Department targeted what was known as the 40 Block Neighborhood in partnership with other departments. Neighborhood Services had been working with Nevada Bankers Collaborative to identify a project for Comprehensive Revitalization.

Mr. Young explained this was an area with many problems with police coming in to stop gang problems and reduce the number of police incidents.

The 40 Block project area consisted of Cartier Avenue to the north, Martin Luther King Boulevard on the east with Comstock Drive also an eastern barrier, Lake Mead Boulevard on the south and Simmons Street to the west. There were boarded up and abandoned homes in that neighborhood. Some of the project goals included neighborhood beautification, increases in neighborhood capacity, home ownership, property values, and neighborhood pride. Staff was looking into public facilities such as Neighborhood Resource Center, development of neighborhood community activities (neighborhood block parties, clean-ups), reducing crime rate in the area, and job and commercial development growth. Mr. Young spoke about the possibility of redevelopment of vacant land in the area. Some

of the guiding principles were to encourage and support partnerships; include as many people as possible in the process by having neighborhood meetings, neighborhood activities, neighborhood planning; recognize uniqueness; and build on strengths.

Mr. Young explained the Collaborative Neighborhood Planning Process which would be the start of neighbor involvement in the planning by identifying problems. The first step would be a conditions assessment with a planning team reviewing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Councilman Eliason questioned whether this would be done by the City or the Bankers. Mr. Young explained it would be City Staff and the Bankers would submit a grant for the process.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson explained there were low income residents in that area and grants would need to be secured.

Mr. Young explained this was a Community Development Block Grant eligible area and there were also a number of non-profits available.

Mayor Montandon questioned whether there would be a cost benefit analysis associated with the project and the breakdown of sources of funds. Mr. Young said it would be done.

He explained the preparation of a draft plan and neighborhood buy-in; how the plan would be implemented and the monitoring of the plan.

He discussed the 40 Block Action Plan which included the 40 Block Initiative, meeting with stakeholders from the community; Service Providers' Meetings and registering neighborhood associations; implementing the neighborhood resource center; clean-up campaigns; leadership seminars, working with existing Staff, University of Nevada, Las Vegas or Community College of Southern Nevada to provide training; social neighborhood gatherings; community gardens; mural walls; formative and summative evaluation; and annual volunteer recognition event.

Mr. Young explained the members of the strategy team and the 40 Block Partners. He discussed what was needed from the bankers' collaborative such as favorable funding for nonprofits to purchase, develop, or rehabilitate properties; provide financial literacy classes; home-ownership counseling; low or below market interest loans to residents to rehabilitate their homes, low or below market interest rates to businesses to make facade improvements; work with Creative Choice to redevelop properties with a favorable underwriting criteria; develop first time home-buyer programs which encouraged citizens to purchase property in the 40 block area. It was asked that they assist the City with stakeholders, community engagement and visioning meetings; facilitating meetings with non-profits; and development of strategic and marketing plans.

Mr. Young summarized by stating he was looking for resident participation; concentrated efforts/resources; public/private partnerships; neighborhood capacity building; and development of neighborhood leadership; crime and blight elimination; commercial and residential infill; creation of a sense of neighborhood and multi-year commitment.

Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson commented that this was in Ward 2 and there were one or

two sets of gang members with one street separating the Bloods and Crips. There were challenges and a need for a Neighborhood Center. He encouraged Staff to work together to coordinate.

Councilman Eliason commented that the same evaluation should be done in the neighborhoods and wanted to make sure the banks kept their commitment. Mr. Young explained there were many resources which would be utilized.

ACTION: PRESENTATION MADE.

PUBLIC FORUM

Dean Leavitt, 918 Dawn Valley Drive, North Las Vegas, Committee member of the Real Estate Committee for Neighborhood Housing Services of Southern Nevada, concurred with information given and as an organization, committed to making a positive change in the City.

Dr. Shelia Thompson, Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services, spoke about surveys for the 40 Block area and the gathering of input from the residents of the neighborhood.

ADJOURNMENT

ACTION: THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:31 P.M.

MOTION: Mayor Pro Tempore Robinson

SECOND: Councilman Eliason

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED: April 18, 2007

Mayor Michael L. Montandon

ATTEST:

Karen L. Storms, CMC
City Clerk