

SPANISH SPRINGS CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD



DRAFT

The special meeting of the Spanish Springs Citizen Advisory Board held January 13, 2010 at the Lazy 5 Regional Park - 7100 Pyramid Lake Road, Spanish Springs, Nevada

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Max Bartmess, Acting Chair. Max Bartmess led the salute to the flag.
2. **ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM** – Max Bartmess, Vice Chair, John Bilka, At-Large, Edward Goodrich, Alternate CAC - City of Sparks, Richard Johnstone, At Large, Greg Prough, At Large, Darcy Smernis, At Large and Nick Zufelt, At-Large
MEMBERS ABSENT – Steve Grosz, Chair., At-Large, excused and Kevin Roukey, At Large Alternate
3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** – Greg Prough moved to approve the January 13, 2010 agenda as posted. Nick Zufelt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
4. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** – Greg Prough moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2009 meeting as submitted. John Bilka seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 5.* **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Comment heard under this item will be limited to items not on this agenda and will also be limited to three minutes per person. This three-minute rule shall also apply to public testimony given during an agenda item. The Chair may modify this time limit for all public comment and testimony at the beginning of the meeting, but the time per person shall be no less than two minutes. Testimony during an agenda item shall be limited to the subject of the agenda item. Comments are to be made to the CAB as a whole.
 - Garth Elliott reported that he returned home to find six Washoe County Deputies on his porch who were responding to a theft of a neighbor's dog complaint. Mr. Elliott stated concern that so many Deputies responded to the call when the call should have been reported to Animal Control. Mr. Elliott urged citizens to consider the record of elected officials when electing new Washoe County Commissioners and other elected officials.
 - Gary Schmidt introduced himself and announced that he is a candidate for the local State Senate seat. Mr. Schmidt urged citizens to consider a change in elected state and local officials when elections are held. Mr. Schmidt urged citizens to review their property taxes and present an appeal to the Board of Equalization.
 - Max Bartmess asked for further public comment and hearing none, closed this item.
- 6.* **COUNTY COMMISSIONER UPDATES** –
 - A. Commissioner Robert Larkin was available to address questions from the audience and reported that the Washoe County Board of Commissioners will hold a Strategic Planning Retreat on Thursday, January 21, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., at the Washoe County Health Department Building - North/South Auditorium, 1001 E. 9th Street, Reno, Nevada
 - B. Lorrie Adams, County Liaison for Districts 4 and 5, is available to answer your questions and concerns. Please feel free to contact her at ladams@washoecounty.us (775) 328-2720. To sign up to receive email updates from the County, visit www.washoecounty.us/cmail. The written County updates are available online at www.washoecounty.us/cab (follow the link to your CAB).
- 7.* **UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE** – (CAB files and correspondence which are part of the public record are on file in the Washoe County Department of Community Development and are available for public review. Written correspondence and testimony will be included in the public record when a request is made to make the document a part of the public record and when a copy is provided to the CAB Chair, who forwards the document to the County. Copies of correspondence should be on file in the Washoe County Department of Community Development and are available for public review). There were no updates, announcements or correspondence presented.
 - Battalion Chief Joe DuRousseau, Reno Fire Department presented updated information on the status of fire protection including the locations of fire equipment and apparatus. Chief DuRousseau reported that there will be an increase in response times for the Spanish Springs valley. Chief DuRousseau stated that the contract read that there would be no lay-offs unless the economy warrants reductions in costs.
- 8.* **ACTION PLAN/COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - **Parks Issues and Updates** – John Bradbury thanked everyone who attended the crafts fair. They raised nearly one thousand dollars to donate to the park. Mr. Bradbury also reported that five tons of recycle telephone books were collected at the Lazy 5 Regional Park. Mr. Bradbury announced that there will be free gardening seminars at the Bartley Ranch Park. The meetings will be held on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.
 - **Search and Rescue** – Max Bartmess reported that practice searches have been held over the last two months. Mr. Bartmess reported on an emergency landing at the Spanish Springs airport
 - **Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)** – Edward Goodrich reported that the Sparks CAC did not have a meeting in December and new members to serve on the CAC have yet to be appointed.

9. NEW BUSINESS - (The staff contact listed on items for Community Development may not be in attendance but can be contacted with code and policy questions.)

A.* Conversion From a One-Map Based Planning System to a Two-Map Based Planning System – Eric Young, Ph.D., Planner, Department of Community Development presented information on the conversion of the county's current planning system which relies on one map to represent both the master plan and zoning to a system that utilizes separate master plan and zoning maps. Dr. Young will discuss the reasons for the transition, provide some details on how the new system would function, and answer any questions. There will be a community wide public review in February. Information on the dates and times for the presentations will be announced. Dr. Young stated that the first presentation to the Planning Commission will be in June and, if approved, will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners. Dr. Young provided printed PowerPoint information for review. Dr. Young stated that information is available on the Washoe County web-site. (This item was informational only and no action was taken.)

Comments and Concerns

- Concerns were raised that this process would be costly to taxpayers what benefit it is to citizens.
- Questions were raised whether the change would be cost effective now and in the future.
- Dr. Young stated that there would not be any additional cost for the planning and presentation process for staff but there would be costs of mailing/noticing to citizens.

B.* Washoe County Regional Open Space and Natural Resources Management Plan – Jennifer Budge, Park Planner (823-6513) Washoe County Regional Parks and Open Space and presented the 2008 Regional Open Space and Natural Resources Management Plan as it pertains to open space in Spanish Springs. Topics may include existing open space, future plans for property acquisitions, and potential coordination with the Bureau of Land Management at the Spanish Springs Airport site. Following her presentation, Ms. Budge addressed questions and concerns. Lynda Nelson, Planning Manager (823-6511) can be contacted with questions. (This item was information only and no action was taken.)

Comments and Concerns

- Ms. Budge identified the property designated as open space on the master plan map and addressed questions regarding the lease and potential purchase process.
- Questions were raise regarding potential recreational uses of the adjacent property. Ms. Budge stated that they want to file the intent with BLM in order to prevent the property to be disposed of in the future.
- Concerns were raised regarding possible illegal use of the trails by motorized bike riders.

C.* Notification to Property Owners Regarding Martin Murietta's Proposed Use of Explosives at the Spanish Springs Aggregate Pit – Pierre Hascheff presented an overview of the blasting protocols and the plan regarding their proposed use of explosives at the Spanish Springs Aggregate Pit (APN 89-160-08) sometime during February 2010. The aggregate pit was originally approved under Major Project Review Case No. MPR7-6-88. Condition #16 of the approved permit requires the applicant to notify all affected property owners prior to any use of explosives and post warning signs specifying the dates and times of explosives use. The pit is located at the west end of Sha Neva Road, approximately one mile west of State Route 445 (Pyramid Highway). Following the presentation, representatives of Martin Marietta would address questions and concerns from the CAB members and the public, and Shelby Olsen was available to answer questions not related to blasting. Mr. Hascheff stated that they will notify mailed notices to possible impacted residential properties. Mr. Hascheff stated that the Spanish Springs Airport is the closest adjacent property. Blasting should occur from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Mr. Hascheff stated that they will come back to the CAB when blasting commences. Mr. Hascheff introduced James Nicholson, Senior Environmental Engineer, Kim Duvall, Plant Manager, and Joe Threatte, Blasting Program Technician who were available to address questions and concerns. (This item was for information only and the CAB took no action.)

Comments and Concerns

- In response to questions raised, Mr. Hascheff stated that they would not be blasting in Stormy Canyon. The plan is to blast only when it is needed and not necessarily each day. They will have a seismograph to measure the blasting impacts.
- The applicant was not able to provide exact quantities of blasting materials, nor the total area that would be blasted.
- The applicant was encouraged to invite students from the University to observe the blasting.
- Max Bartmess discussed the plan to notify pilots of the blasting events.
- The applicant was asked to notify the Chairs of adjacent HOA's so they can notify the residents.
- Mr. Hascheff stated that the Health Department will be notified of the blasting and request direction for handling dust controls.
- Concerns were raised regarding negative impacts to dwellings including new drywall cracks and excessive noise.
- Greg Prough stated for the record that blasting should not negatively impact structures beyond 3000 foot distance.

- A representative from the Sparks Tribune who was in attendance, offered to provide notification of scheduled blasting.
- D.* Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Study Presentation** – Doug Maloy, P.E. Regional Transportation Commission and Bryan Gant, Jacobs Engineering provided information by PowerPoint on the Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection Study's progress. The study is evaluating alternatives to relieve traffic congestion on the Pyramid Highway and provide improved connectivity from Pyramid to US 395 and east to Vista Boulevard. Alternatives will be developed and evaluated to provide for today's traffic and anticipated future growth through 2040. This study is an environmental and engineering study being conducted by the RTC on behalf of the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT) and in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). For more information, please visit www.rtcwashoe.com and click on **Hot Topics, Pyramid Highway/US 395 Connection EIS**. Following the presentation, Mr. Maloy and Mr. Gant were available to answer questions from the CAB and NAB members and the public. (This item was informational only and no action was taken.)
- E. Pedestrian Access** – Due to the late hour, this item was postponed to the March agenda. Discussion and possible recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners regarding the lack of safe pedestrian access to local shopping centers and to the Lazy 5 Regional Park.
- F. Spanish Springs Area Plan Update** – Due to the late hour, this item was postponed to the March agenda. Eric Young, Ph. D, Planner, Department of Community Development, will be present to listen to CAB concerns and possible recommendations regarding the timing and scope of future Spanish Springs Area Plan updates and more narrowly-focused amendments. The discussion will include a review of the differences between pursuing narrowly-focused amendments vs. pursuing broad-based updates.
- 10. OLD BUSINESS** – There were no Old Business items scheduled for review.
- 11.*CHAIRMAN/MEMBER COMMENTS** - (This item limited to announcements of topics/issues posed for future workshops/agendas.)
- **Next Agenda Items:** Spanish Springs Area Plan Update and Pedestrian Access
- 12. ADJOURNMENT** – Greg Prough moved to adjourn the meeting at 10 04 p.m. The motion was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted By: Allayne Donnelly-Everett, Recording Secretary