

## STAFF REPORT FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2009

FILE NO: MPA-09-084

AGENDA ITEM: H-2

STAFF AUTHOR: Lee Plemel, Planning Director

APPLICANT: Carson City Planning Division

**SUBJECT:** Action to adopt a resolution making a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors regarding a Master Plan text amendment application to modify the mission statement and goals of the Carson River Master Plan.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** I move to adopt Resolution 2009-PC-6 recommending to the Board of Supervisors approval of a Master Plan text amendment application to modify the mission statement and goals of the Carson River Master Plan as recommended by the Carson River Advisory Committee, based on the findings contained in the staff report.

### BACKGROUND:

The Carson River Master Plan is considered an element of the Carson City Master Plan. Pursuant to Carson City Municipal Code and NRS, Master Plan amendments must be reviewed by the Planning Commission for a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. A super-majority of two-thirds of the Planning Commission (at least five votes) is required to forward a recommendation of approval of a Master Plan Amendment to the Board of Supervisors.

### DISCUSSION:

A complete background and discussion regarding the proposed amendment to the 1996 Carson River Master Plan is included in the attached staff report from the Parks and Recreation Department. The proposed amendments to the mission statement and goals of the Carson River Master Plan are the result of recent evaluation of the continued relevance of the plan and represent the first update of the plan since 1996. No other amendments to any other portions of the Carson River Master Plan are proposed.

**PUBLIC NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** Public notices were published in the newspaper for the Master Plan Element Amendment in accordance with the provisions of NRS and CCMC 18.02.045. As of November 9, 2009, no written comments have been received from the general public, either in support or opposition of this application. No City departments had any comments or concerns regarding this amendment. Any comments that are received after this report is completed will be submitted prior to or at the Planning Commission meeting, depending on their submittal date to the Planning Division.

**LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:** CCMC 18.02.050 (Review); 18.02.070 (Master Plan Amendments).

**FINDINGS:** Staff recommends the following findings for approval pursuant to the Carson City Municipal Code Section 18.02.070(10)(e), Master Plan Amendments.

1. *The proposed Master Plan element amendment is consistent with and not contrary to the present elements of the Master Plan.*

Rationale: The proposed amendment is in substantial compliance with the goals, policies and action programs of the 2006 Master Plan and specifically helps implement *Guiding Principal 3, Stewardship of the Natural Environment, Goal 3.1, Protect Environmentally Sensitive Areas, 3.1a: continue to coordinate future development with the Carson River Master Plan and the ongoing efforts of the Carson River Advisory Board*. The proposed amendments include additional involvement of the Carson River Advisory Committee in making recommendations regarding development matters within the Carson River watershed.

**2. *The proposed element amendment shall be part of the City's Master Plan, which is a comprehensive long-term document for the physical development of Carson City, and this element amendment will now supplement other Master Plan elements that compose the Master Plan.***

Rationale: The Master Plan amendment will become part of the City's Master Plan upon final adoption by the Board of Supervisors.

**3. *The proposed Master Plan element amendment will promote a desired pattern of orderly physical growth of the City and/or guides a particular type of development activity within Carson City, which will be based on the projected population growth with the least amount of natural resource impairment and/or the efficient expenditure of funds per public services.***

Rationale: The proposed amendment will provide for additional involvement of the Carson River Advisory Committee to provide recommendations regarding development activity and its impact on the Carson River and associated natural resources, per the goals and policies of the Carson City Master Plan as noted above.

Respectfully Submitted,  
PLANNING DIVISION

Lee Plemel, AICP  
Planning Director

## **RESOLUTION 2009-PC-6**

### **A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF MPA-09-084, A MASTER PLAN AMENDMENT TO MODIFY THE MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS OF THE CARSON RIVER MASTER PLAN ELEMENT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

WHEREAS, NRS 278.210 requires that any adoption of a master plan amendment shall be by resolution of the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission has given proper notice of the proposed amendment in accordance with the provisions of NRS and CCMC 18.02.070, and is in conformance with City and State legal requirements; and

WHEREAS, on November 18, 2009, the Planning Commission obtained public testimony and duly considered recommendations and findings for the proposed master plan amendment and approved Master Plan Amendment request MPA-09-084 by an affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the Commission, at least five members of the seven-member Commission, pursuant to NRS 278.210, based on three findings of fact; and

WHEREAS, WHEREAS, the proposed amendment modifies the mission statement and goals of the 1996 Carson River Master Plan in furtherance of the 2006 Envision Carson City Master Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Carson City Planning Commission hereby recommends to the Board of Supervisors approval of the Master Plan Amendment to modify the mission statement and goals of the Carson River Master Plan Element, as recommended by the Carson River Advisory Committee.

ADOPTED this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2009

VOTE:      AYES: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

---

---

NAYS: \_\_\_\_\_  
ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Kimbrough, Chairman

ATTEST:

---

LEE PLEMEL, AICP, Planning Director



# CARSON CITY, NEVADA

CONSOLIDATED MUNICIPALITY AND STATE CAPITAL

RECEIVED

NOV. 05 2009 RMT

CARSON CITY  
PLANNING DIVISION

## MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission

From: Roger Moellendorf, Parks and Recreation Director  
Vern L. Krahn, Park Planner

Date: November 4, 2009

Subject: Carson River Master Plan Amendment

*RMT*  
*V.L.K.*

On Saturday, January 10, 2009, the Carson River Advisory Committee, along with Parks and Recreation Department staff, held a workshop to develop an annual work plan and goals for 2009/2010. During this workshop, the Committee also reviewed the Carson River Master Plan's 1996 Mission Statement and Committee's Goals (Exhibit A) and realized that, due to the passage of time, there was a need to revise the document to reflect current issues facing the Carson River. Over the next six months and at several public meetings, the Committee discussed a number potential changes to the plan's original mission statement and committee goals (Exhibit B). Based on these meetings, on July 27, 2009, the Committee took official action to recommend to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to change the Carson River Master Plan's Mission Statement and Committee Goals.

The Committee's reason for proposing a change to the Mission Statement is related to the following issue: The present mission statement is not holistic.

- The Carson River and watershed are not separate systems. The watershed conditions and activities have a significant influence on the river and corridor's health.

The Committee members have considerable experience with river and watershed issues and by making this request are encouraging both the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors to take advantage of this expertise. Furthermore, the Committee is requesting only to be involved with watershed issues with clear connections to the river, its water quality, and overall health.

The Committee's reasons for proposing changes to the Carson River Master Plan Committee Goals are to revise them to reflect current issues facing the Carson River. During the process to revise these goals, the Committee chose to recommend the elimination of all the original master plan committee goals adopted in 1996 and proposed six new goals (Exhibit C). These new goals and justification are as follows:

**Goal # 1 – Promote and assist with the development of a natural resource plan for public and private lands along the river.**

**Background:** The 1996 River Master Plan encourages the protection and restoration of riparian habitat but insufficient detail is provided to meet this objective.

**Action:** Develop Habitat Conservation Plan with Q1 funds (5% match)

- Q1's definition of HCP - a plan to protect or enhance essential habitat for biodiversity
- HCP recommended by Silver Saddle / Carson River Charrette Summary
- Develop management options/guidelines; identify potential projects including workday projects
- Coordinate with potential Middle Carson River HCP (State Parks, CWSD, NVLC)

**Goal #2 - Provide leadership through informed recommendations on managing public access and uses for river recreational purposes.**

**Background:** During a January 2009 workshop, CRAC members identified issues related to public uses of the river corridor lands.

**Action:**

- Continue to provide recommendations to City on proposed actions such as acquisitions, park developments, etc.
- Further discuss and possibly provide a set of recommendations for management

**Goal #3 - Comment on city, state, or federal ordinances, laws, and regulations pertaining to the river's watershed, water quality, storm water, wildlife, and floodplain issues.**

**Background:** CRAC has historically provided this type of input to the City.

**Action:** CRAC comment on pertinent ordinances, laws, and regulations

**Goal #4 - Participate in and promote on-going environmental education efforts and events**

**Background:** Education is an important component of any strategy for addressing river / watershed health issues.

**Action:** CRAC members liaison with existing groups - CRAC's education work group, FOSSR, Clear Creek Watershed Council.

**Goal #5 - Promote ourselves as the Carson River Advisory Committee**

**Background:** CRAC has sponsored work days for a number of years

**Action:** Continue to hold annual Carson River Workday

Goal #6 - Establish and improve working relationships with all other river agencies and groups.

Background: CRAC sees the need to improve interfacing with other City groups such as Open Space, Parks and Recreation, Wildlife, etc., especially as we move forward on HCP.

Action: Meet with other groups to discuss ways to better integrate efforts.

Finally, our department supports the Carson River Advisory Committee's decision to amend the Carson River Master Plan. Randy Pahl, Carson River Advisory Committee Chairman and Parks and Recreation Department staff will be available at the Planning Commission meeting for any questions on the proposed Carson River Master Plan amendment.

Until then, if you have any questions regarding the proposed amendment please feel free to contact our department.

Adopted - 1996 .....

Exhibit A

## Committee Mission Statement

---

The Carson River Advisory Committee will provide the Carson City Board of Supervisors with informed recommendations on matters concerning the Carson River, the Carson City Master Plan update as it pertains to the Carson River region, and will participate in the plan's implementation.

---

## Committee Goals

1. Establish recreational goals (Recreational Plan)
2. Develop a plan for the safety and security for the public, wildlife, and natural resources on public and private lands
3. Develop a natural resource plan
4. Develop private land policies
5. Develop program for enhancement/protection/preservation of wildlife habitat
6. Develop a plan to protect/enhance/preserve/restore cultural resources
7. Review and recommend city, state, or federal ordinances, laws, or regulations
8. Establish system for plan review for development
9. Develop a program/plan for interpretation/environmental education of natural history/cultural history
10. Promote ourselves as the Carson River Advisory Committee
11. Develop working relationships with all other agencies/groups in relation to the river (public or private)
12. Develop funding sources for implementing the Committee's recommendations

### **3-B. DISCUSSION AND UPDATE ONLY REGARDING THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S DEVELOPMENT ON AN ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND GOAL-SETTING WORKSHOP WHICH WAS HELD ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 2009**

(6:16:32) - Chairperson Pahl introduced the item and Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report which was incorporated into the record. He gave a synopsis of the workshop. Staff was very excited about it and had the opportunity to spend time going over some issues. The notes taken at the workshop were a baseline of ideas and thoughts to develop more specific plans. He was open to suggestions on how to handle the notes and proceed with this item.

(6:20:35) Chairperson Pahl praised Mr. Krahn on a great job of capturing everything as there was a lot of information. He also commented that Steve Lewis did a great job of keeping them on task. Some details were laid out on the natural resource plan, but there wasn't an opportunity to talk more about identifying some of the access issues and follow-up activities that will need to be done.

(6:21:36) Mr. Krahn commented that this is first time this committee has gone before the Board of Supervisors. There is no staff liaison and they do their best to communicate down the line what the Board wants and vice versa. When things go up to the Board, they try to communicate what the intent is from the committee, but it's nothing like being in the same room as the Board of Supervisors and getting their thoughts and concerns directly to this committee. It will be a real opportunity for this committee to introduce itself to the Board of Supervisors.

(6:23:23) In response to a question, Mr. Krahn replied that he is not aware of the discussions regarding the outcome of the Board of Supervisors' strategic planning session and hopes they won't be eliminating any committees. He also noted that there may be nothing that comes out of that session which affects the Carson River Advisory Committee.

(6:24:08) Vice Chairperson Pugsley inquired as to whether it was appropriate to provide the set of goals to the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Krahn replied that he will prepare a memo and short history of what the committee's thoughts are and send it to the Board. Vice Chairperson Pugsley commented that the Board should be aware of the committee's goals and if they decided to disband the committee, he'd want them to make that decision before going to the effort of fulfilling their goals. Mr. Krahn replied that no one was talking about disbanding the committee. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested that they could be abbreviated down to just the goals themselves or expand it to whatever set of notes is appropriate. Mr. Krahn commented that he could edit it into a document that the Board of Supervisors could review reasonably quickly. Chairperson Pahl added that having the issues would be good and not just limit it to the goals.

(6:27:22) In response to a question, Mr. Krahn replied that he would be happy to spend time with Chairperson Pahl to create a work plan so key issues and the direction the committee wants to go can be identified. It needs to be very clear so the Board of Supervisors understands precisely what the objectives are. Based on some of the goals, changing components of the Carson River Master Plan also needs to be made very clear to the Board of Supervisors. There would be an emphasis shift from what currently is in



# CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## Minutes of the January 26, 2009 Meeting

Page 7

DRAFT

the Carson River Master Plan. Considering that the Plan was adopted in 1996, some of the goals have changed and need to be modified to deal with current issues that now exist on the river. A good thing to report to the Board of Supervisors would be the accomplishment of certain things and the completion of some goals.

### **3-C. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ONLY REGARDING THE SUCCESS OF CARSON RIVER FEST 2008 (AKA: CARSON RIVER WORK AND EDUCATION DAY) WHICH WAS HELD ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2008 (6:31:07)**

Chairperson Pahl introduced the item and Member Greytak reviewed the events of the work day. As the organizer, he thought it went very well. The weather was better than expected and people showed up early and eager. It wasn't difficult to obtain the three permits needed and they didn't have to pay out any money. He thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for the work trailer. They broke out into groups of 45 workers, 40 of whom had never been to Silver Saddle or on the river. He applauded Rusty Duncan at Greater Nevada Credit Union for their sponsorship and who also brought everyone out to work. He expressed his appreciation to them for their efforts and would like to see them back next time. The friends of Silver Saddle and Nancy Santos cleaned bird boxes. He thanked the Western Nevada Resource Conservation Development and the Conservation District in Carson Valley for their support in providing materials and personnel, tools, equipment and advice. He thanked the BLM for allowing them to invade their space. The facilities were good and everything worked really well. Five hundred feet of chicken wire was used. Forty gallons of paint mixed with sand was used for trees. Fifty trees and shrubs were planted along the river bank. A crew of three guys did trail work from the red house to the top of the hill. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and he again expressed his appreciation for the work everyone did. Mr. Krahn offered t-shirts for those who weren't able to attend. He also noted that nothing breeds success like success. He was approached for an eagle scout project and a girl scout troop. He made an appeal to the public that if someone is looking for a worthy project, facilitating and helping the committee with planning, organization, and getting donations, it's a great opportunity for a worthy eagle scout project.

### **4. NON-ACTION ITEMS REPORTS ONLY**

**4-A. MEXICAN DITCH TRAIL BRIDGE(S) PROJECT** (6:40:18) - Mr. Krahn advised that work is being done along the Mexican Ditch trail near Buzzy's Ranch Road and the Carson River. The concrete abutments are in for the two bridges. The bridges are due to be in February 4-5. One bridge is completely constructed and ready for delivery. The other is still being manufactured and should be delivered in the next couple of weeks. The bridges will be 45+ foot long pedestrian bridges going in over the Mexican Ditch.

**4-B. MORGAN MILL ROAD RIVER ACCESS AREA PROJECT** (6:41:17) - Mr. Krahn advised that plans and designs are completed. The permits are in at all levels. The permits are in to state and are working their way through the system. Because of wildlife nesting issues, the target is August 1. Construction cycles are being geared to that particular time frame. It works well with lower water flows in the river and parking lots can be built. The weather is still good in late August, early September to put in the parking lots. Based on engineering estimates, there should be enough money for the first phase of

DRAFT

(1-0648) Mr. Jacquet commented that the public process was to inform the development of the Lands Bill. Similarities, findings and the general vision for these lands can be found in the Bill. It was negotiated that Prison Hill, Silver Saddle Ranch and the Ambrose area would have a conservation easement to ensure that the visions and planning would be carried out. The United States is reserving a conservation easement that reflects the Lands Bill that reflects this summary. In essence, if the Board of Supervisors wanted to turn Silver Saddle Ranch into an amusement park, the conservation easement would be an impediment to doing so.

Mr. Krahn commented that it was amazing how the community turned out. To see the vision and be part of the process was outstanding and the management team needed that particular acknowledgment.

(1-0713) Member Pugsley commented on the outstanding job of summarizing the immense amount of planning. He was impressed with the way it was pulled all together and presented effectively in 10 maps. It's a very effective way to present a massive amount of data.

(1-0741) Ms. Santos commented that the grant was obtained through the National Parks Service and this couldn't have been accomplished without their assistance.

Chairperson Pahl commented that the summary was very easy to go through and the presentation is wonderful. In response to a question, it was determined that Stan Zuber from the Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife was involved in the process. In response to another question, Mr. Guzman replied that a resolution was obtained from that Board endorsing the effort.

Chairperson Pahl then entertained a motion. Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to accept and recommend to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors acceptance of the recommendations as outlined specifically in the "Creating a Community Vision" and the "Moving Towards the Future" presentations presented within the Charrette documents and summary. Member Sheek seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**3-B. ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S "WORK PLAN" FOR 2009/2010** - (1-0794) Chairperson Pahl discussed the possibility of pursuing some Question #1 (Q-1) money for the habitat conservation plan as that was a recommendation in the Charette document. He had spoken with John Paul Kiel who advised that there is \$1.1 million available. He said Round 10 ends in March and there will be another round in September. There is a 95 percent grant, 5 percent match that can come from staff time, volunteers, etc. There is an application expected from State Parks by the Fort Churchill area, and it was suggested that CRAC try to dovetail with that.

In response to a question, Chairperson Pahl replied that the Fort Churchill application is expected in this round. Mr. Moellendorf commented that this would create an opportunity to review it and

**CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the March 23, 2009 Meeting**

**Page 4**

**DRAFT**

prepare the application for the September Round. He stated that the money can be used to develop a plan to protect or enhance an endangered species wildlife habitat, other species that need special protection, or protect or enhance essential habitat for bio-diversity.

Mr. Guzman noted the need for a certain sum of money that would be matched. Chairperson Pahl commented that Mr. Kiel did not mention money but that aerial imagery was done a few years ago to which Carson City contributed and that is a match itself. Member Kosch commented that calculations for reaches were just done for Carson Valley and the reach for Carson City was a match worth \$20,000-\$25,000.

Mr. Guzman commented that a scope of work would be developed which gets into a bid process. A request for technical expertise can also be used to analyze technical qualifications of different firms. Mr. Jacquet commented on the need for detail and to get in the river and focus on the health of the specific riparian habitat. He observed a slow degradation of the riparian zone in terms of cottonwood expansion and recommended moving ahead with that type of conservation planning. Ms. Santos agreed saying there are ways to go about using the riparian corridor as the emphasis and for diversity. Chairperson Pahl commented on the need for people from Open Space, CRAC, and FSSR to work together to compile a scope of work for an RFP or RFQ as it wasn't appropriate for this Committee to do it alone.

Mr. Krahn advised that before going to an RFP or RFQ, to make sure that money is available which requires a lot of people putting in time responding to requests. He advised that he and Mr. Guzman have made a couple of runs at that money in the past to no avail. He said it would be good to focus on the vision for this habitat conservation plan and work with State Lands to fine tune it to fit within their criteria.

Mr. Guzman commented that something to enhance the obligation is obtaining money from Q-1 to purchase some of the lands which is an extension of something already worthy of funding. Ms. Santos noted the importance of the approach and suggested utilizing the Migratory Bird Act as "the impetus."

In response to a question, Ms. Santos replied that it would be a good idea to get input in determining a scope of work. Mr. Guzman suggested presenting an initial concept to clarify that more specific things need to be accomplished that most likely won't be discovered until well into the process. Another suggested approach was taking the existing documentation and sending it to consulting companies requesting an outline of a habitat conservation plan and formulate that into something for Q-1. Mr. Guzman suggested finding out how many others are applying in order to ascertain the likelihood of obtaining funding. Another idea would be to approach conceptual river supervisors.

Chairperson Pahl commented that Kevin Hill recommended being as specific as possible in terms of what habitats need protection. Mr. Kiel advised that the plan should include management measures which need to be implemented. These should be living documents that state that the plan

**CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the March 23, 2009 Meeting**

**Page 5**

**DRAFT**

will be revisited every five years.

Mr. Moellendorf suggested the next logical step would be meeting with Mr. Kiel and those knowledgeable in wildlife biology to come up with ideas for projects. Another possibility would be consulting with the Board to Manage Wildlife. Mr. Guzman suggested coming back every other month with a progress report.

Chairperson Pahl was unsure if it was appropriate to have a working group made up of people from Friends, Open Space and this Committee as this is something near and dear to Dan Greytak's heart.

(1-1115) Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested including the Audubon Society in the work group. He anticipated the focus to be birds. Other wildlife can be drawn in but birds are the best indicator in a corridor as close to the urban area as it is. He and Member Greytak have been concerned about the "loving it to death" concept pertinent to the river corridor. He expressed support for paths, but suggested the importance of investing a significant effort on determining the best locations for the paths. Hoping to gain more from the report than anything else would be a scientific study determining the impact to passerine birds.

Mr. Guzman advised that The Nature Conservancy was an integral part of the Charrette and Federal Lands Bill. He suggested them as "good partners," and advised that they have applied for Q-1 funding for the conservation easement associated with the Bently property. Mr. Jacquet advised that The Nature Conservancy received funding for acquisition and trails and interpretation at river forks. Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that no Q-1 funding had been awarded for habitat improvement. Chairperson Pahl suggested that the Committee could build off the grant application being submitted by Nevada State Parks. Mr. Guzman suggested the possibility of emphasizing vegetation rather than wildlife, which would be able to support wildlife and birds. Ms. Santos advised that wetlands bring the most diverse wildlife species. Chairperson Pahl suggested focusing on the cottonwood galleries, willow habitat, or wetlands in the agriculture areas. Vice Chairperson Pugsley advised that increasing passerine birds will require more vegetation. Mr. Jacquet advised that the BLM will be considering species such as beaver as part of the habitat. It's an area to refocus on and suggested being as expansive as possible in considering the plant and animal species along the river. He acknowledged the aquatic community has been tremendously degraded over the last century.

Mr. Krahn considered conservation plans to monitor or establish monitoring mechanisms. Adding a monitoring mechanism to follow up on the base line data will provide good information. Chairperson Pahl suggested the key would be to determine what to measure. He reiterated the suggestion to establish a working group. Mr. Moellendorf advised that staff would review the application and consider forming a work group that would cross several advisory committees, staff, and other agency jurisdictions. He suggested that the CRAC would be a natural lead for the work group. Chairperson Pahl suggested scheduling a meeting with Jon Paul Kiel and Kevin Hill. He thanked Ms. Santos, Mr. Jacquet and Mr. Guzman for their attendance and participation.

## CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the March 23, 2009 Meeting

Page 6

**DRAFT**

(1-1308) Chairperson Pahl expressed an interest in expanding the CRAC's mission statement to include purview over the entire watershed, not just the river. He expressed concern that the entire watershed may be too broad so as to include fire management to street cleaning. He expressed a willingness to address issues as brought forward by staff. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested attempting to make a case directly with the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

(1-1416) Mr. Krahn advised that the April 16<sup>th</sup> BOS meeting would be the earliest to agendize a joint meeting. Mr. Kosch expressed support for including the entire watershed in consideration of the possibility of restrictions or guidelines. Chairperson Pahl suggested that expanding the Committee's purview would create involvement with the Public Works Department and Streets Division. Mr. Moellendorf advised that the Open Space Advisory Committee shares the concern over the watershed in terms of the lands to be maintained with the potential passage of the Federal Lands Bill. He suggested the hesitation may be that the watershed is larger than the river as it extends beyond state boundaries as well.

Vice Chairperson Pugsley noted that the BOS had rarely requested advice from CRAC. The CRAC has sought out issues about which to provide advice. He commented that adding the watershed gives more latitude and potentially gives the BOS more latitude to direct the CRAC. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn advised that the BOS requested this Committee's input on the Aquatic Trail Plan and The Envision Carson City comprehensive master planning process. The BOS requests CRAC input and has CRAC in place to consider river issues and look at different habitat, wildlife or water quality issues. Mr. Krahn advised that this Committee providing their opinions to the BOS is beneficial "in the sense of giving the Board multiple different views, different information..." Vice Chairperson Pugsley noted the Committee's responsibility to provide a venue for public input.

In response to a comment, Mr. Moellendorf noted that the BOS can accept the Committee's advice or decline it. In response to a further comment, he agreed with Vice Chairperson Pugsley's suggestion to go directly to the BOS with the possibility of expanding the Committee's purview to the watershed. Chairperson Pahl noted necessary revisions to the work plan included in the agenda materials.

Chairperson Pahl suggested adding language and support regarding the Charrette. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested that the Charrette didn't need to be incorporated. Chairperson Pahl said that the workshop was done to help inform this plan which can be updated. The plan was done before seeing the Charrette. Mr. Krahn suggested an opportunity for other Committee members to meet with Chairperson Pahl to review the draft work plan. Mr. Moellendorf suggested that the Charrette could be worked into one of the existing goals. He also suggested going into more detail of the Charrette and pulling some items out to make them part of this Committee's goals or add a goal to promote and support the findings of the Charrette. Chairperson Pahl clarified his intent to indicate that the Charrette expressed support for a habitat conservation plan. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn anticipates that the Charrette document will be presented to the BOS at the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested presenting the work plan at the same time. Mr.

## CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the March 23, 2009 Meeting

Page 7

**DRAFT**

Krahn advised that revisions to the work plan would have to be finalized by April 7<sup>th</sup>. Discussion took place regarding revisions to the work plan. Vice Chairperson Pugsley confirmed that the purpose is to provide additional background and/or action relative to the Charrette document. Chairperson Pahl commented that Goal #2 is tied into Goal #1. A better goal would be a broad spectrum of the activities done as a Committee. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested that it's different because in the natural resource plan, use and access are separate important issues that should be maintained separately. To strategize discussion with the BOS, Goal #2 is the role played today and Goal #1 is needed to play it better. Chairperson Pahl commented that the Committee does more than public access issues.

Member Sheck noted a typographical error at Goal #5. Chairperson Pahl reviewed the Summary of Tentative Activities table included with the work plan. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn suggested that staff and the Committee utilize the activities table internally, and that the Board of Supervisors should not be involved in approving a tentative schedule that may or may not be concurred. Chairperson Pahl expressed agreement.

Chairperson Pahl entertained a motion. Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved for approval of the work plan for presentation to the Board of Supervisors with additional commentary to be added to incorporate the design Charrette and correction of editorial requirements; with the intent to discuss water quality in the hopes of expanding the Committee's mission statement to include the watershed. Member Kosch seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**3-C. ACTION TO SET A DATE FOR THE CARSON RIVER WORK AND EDUCATION DAY, AKA: RIVERFEST 2009 (1-1993)** - Chairperson Pahl introduced this item, and Mr. Krahn reviewed the pertinent agenda materials. He commented that last year's Riverfest was a great success and congratulated Dan Greytak for coining the term "Riverfest". Vice Chairperson Pugsley discussed possible dates, and recommended the third Saturday in October. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn reviewed possible community event calendars and discussion took place regarding other scheduled community and river activities. It was the consensus of the Committee to schedule October 17, 2009 as Riverfest 2009.

**3-D. ACTION TO ASSIST THE CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT AND CARSON CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO ORGANIZE A CLEAN UP EVENT FOR A CITY PARK, TRAIL, OR OPEN SPACE PROPERTY ALONG THE CARSON RIVER (1-2193)** - Chairperson Pahl introduced the item and Mr. Krahn reviewed the agenda materials. He advised that 15-20 cubic yards of trash were cleaned up at the first event at Lone Mountain Park. The Carson City freeway multi-use path and possibly the NDOT slopes, Wal-Mart and Home Depot are scheduled for April. He requested assistance from the Committee in the clean up effort on the river. He advised that the clean ups are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month through October. The Committee may consider the Mexican Ditch trail, river, etc. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn replied that part of the success of Riverfest 2008 was that Greater Nevada Credit Union showed up in force and made a commitment to attend on a

Supervisor Williamson thanked everyone involved in the charrette process, and agreed with Mayor Crowell's earlier comments that the area is very special. She noted challenges associated with scheduling events at the Silver Saddle Ranch which she suggested may be overcome in the near future as the City takes over management. She further noted the increased equestrian use of the Silver Saddle Ranch, and discussed additional uses of the Ranch for certain events. She described the charrette process as very positive and collaborative. She discussed the importance of "listening to the answers" to questions, and encouraged accepting the recommendations of the charrette summary. Supervisor Aldean referred to that portion of the charrette summary relative to invasive species, and discussed the importance of an aggressive public education effort to ensure zebra and quagga mussels are not allowed to establish in the Carson River system. She suggested including appropriate language in the "mission" portion of the charrette summary. She further suggested the involvement of a Carson River Advisory Committee member in the Lake Tahoe aquatic invasive species working group. Supervisor Livermore expressed appreciation for presentation of the "dynamic document." He agreed with Supervisor Walt's comments regarding the importance of marketing the area. In reference to the Carson River Aquatic Trail, he discussed the importance of marketing Carson City's trails system, and of preserving the scenic value of Prison Hill.

Mayor Crowell opened this item to public comment and, when none was forthcoming, entertained a motion. **Supervisor Williamson moved to accept the recommendations of the Silver Saddle Ranch and Carson River Charrette Summary, Creating a Community Vision, regarding the planning vision for public recreation and open space opportunities on the Silver Saddle Ranch, Prison Hill area, and along the Carson River.** Supervisor Aldean seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

 **16. PARKS AND RECREATION AND CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE - ACTION TO APPROVE THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND ANNUAL GOALS FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2009 AND 2010 (10:12:27) -**

Mayor Crowell introduced this item. Park Planner Vern Krahn introduced Carson River Advisory Committee ("CRAC") Chair Randy Pahl and Vice Chair Paul Pugsley, and reviewed the agenda report. Mayor Crowell thanked CRAC Chairperson Pahl for his service to Carson City.

(10:15:31) CRAC Chairperson Pahl narrated a PowerPoint presentation of the CRAC annual work plan and goals, copies of which were included in the agenda materials.

Supervisor Williamson thanked Mr. Pahl for his presentation, and provided background information on the CRAC's purview over the Carson River corridor. Mr. Pahl acknowledged the CRAC's interest in issues of development in the flood plain or watershed that may impact the River. Supervisor Williamson thanked the CRAC for their constant efforts and for synthesizing their goals. Mayor Crowell expressed appreciation for Supervisor Williamson's comments and for the goals developed by the CRAC. He expressed understanding for the connection between the River and the city's watershed, and encouraged discretion in consideration of watershed issues. Mr. Pahl assured the Board that the CRAC has "plenty of work. We don't want to make this too large."

(10:32:44) In response to a question, CRAC Vice Chair Paul Pugsley advised that he serves as Watershed Coordinator for the Carson Valley Conservation District. "We don't play a role anything like what the advisory committee in Carson City does as far as advising" the Douglas County Commissioners. Mr. Pugsley advised that the Dayton Valley Conservation District is most concerned about the Carson River in Lyon County, but does not have an advisory responsibility to the Lyon

**CARSON CITY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Minutes of the July 2, 2009 Meeting**

**Page 10**

**DRAFT**

County Commissioners. "The same is true ... in Churchill County. To a great extent, the Carson River Advisory Committee is unique in the watershed." Mr. Pugsley discussed the Carson River Coalition, sponsored by the Carson Water Subconservancy District, and the Western Nevada RC&D's role in watershed issues. Supervisor Aldean noted the many groups with essentially the same mission but no close cooperation. In reference to her earlier concerns regarding invasive species, she noted the Carson River is part of one water system. "At some level, there has to be some interface between people who are concerned about the health of the Carson River and what's happening at Lake Tahoe ..." Supervisor Aldean reiterated the suggestion for a CRAC member to become involved in the Lake Tahoe aquatic invasive species working group. Mr. Pugsley advised that he and Mr. Pahl would consider Supervisor Aldean's suggestion as guidance.

In response to a question, Mr. Werner advised of "an ongoing group" comprised of representatives of the City's Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments and the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension "to deal with noxious weeds." Mayor Crowell expressed concern over non-native plants which have become a threat, and discussion ensued. Mr. Pahl advised that the CRAC's habitat conservation plan will address the problem. Mr. Krahn advised that Resources Specialist Ann Bollinger has been working to remove noxious weeds and non-native plants in conjunction with recent projects in the area of the Morgan Mill Road river access.

Mayor Crowell opened this item to public comment and, when none was forthcoming, entertained a motion. **Supervisor Aldean moved to approve the Carson River Advisory Committee's annual work plan and annual goals for calendar years 2009 and 2010. Supervisor Walt seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.** Mayor Crowell thanked Mr. Pahl and Mr. Pugsley, and recessed the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

**17. PUBLIC WORKS - PRESENTATION ON MEETING CARSON CITY'S WATER DEMANDS NOW AND FOR THE CITY'S LONG-TERM NEEDS (10:51:54)** - Mayor Crowell reconvened the meeting. Public Works Department Director Andrew Burnham introduced Black and Veatch Associate Vice President Ira Rackley, reviewed the agenda report, and provided background information on Mr. Rackley's presentation. Mr. Rackley narrated a PowerPoint presentation, entitled *2010 Carson City Water Plan, Source to Tap*, copies of which were distributed to the Board members and the Clerk. He and Mr. Burnham responded to questions of clarification and discussion ensued at various points throughout the presentation. Mr. Burnham advised that the arsenic treatment plant construction is complete, and anticipates that it will be in production within the next couple weeks.

Mr. Rackley and Mr. Burnham acknowledged that Carson City's drinking water is safe. Mr. Rackley stated that Carson City's water system is in no jeopardy, and is being managed "very, very well." Water quality and water supply issues are being managed, and "it's safe and reliable." Mr. Rackley acknowledged that the community and the water system will benefit from individuals and families reducing their use of drinkable water. Mayor Crowell thanked Mr. Rackley and Mr. Burnham for their presentation.

In response to a question, Mr. Burnham advised that an agreement will be presented to the Board of Supervisors, in the near future, to receive American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding. Discussion took place regarding the Marlette-Hobart Water System. Mayor Crowell opened this item to public comment; however, none was forthcoming.

## CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the July 27, 2009 Meeting

Page 2

DRAFT

the work plan and goals to go back to the BOS for an update until 2011.



**3-B. ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHANGES TO THE CARSON RIVER MASTER PLAN'S COMMITTEE MISSION STATEMENT AND COMMITTEE GOALS.** (5:34:55) - Mr. Krahn reviewed the staff report which is incorporated into the record. He advised that the work plan approved by the BOS was not official action even though changing the mission statement and goals were discussed. Amending the Carson River Master Plan would require going back through a public process. Exhibit A in the agenda packet is the current list in the Master Plan and the only change is adding the watershed. Exhibit B is the changes being proposed to the Master Plan. He recommended taking it to the Planning Commission's November meeting as annual updates of the Master Plans are done at that time and acting on it tonight will start the process. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn replied that the Planning Commission will take action in November and it will go to the BOS at the second meeting in December. It would be effective for Chairperson Pahl and Vice Chairperson Pugsley to do the same presentation at both meetings. In response to a comment, Vice Chairperson Pugsley thought they were fulfilling the responsibility of the paperwork and have exhausted the public. Mr. Krahn added that the Planning Commission will have its own notification process. Chairperson Pahl entertained a motion. **Vice Chairperson Pugsley moved to recommend to the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors changes to the Carson River Master Plan's Committee Mission Statement and Committee Goals.** Member McCubbin seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**3-C. ACTION REGARDING THE CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE CARSON CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO JOINTLY PLAN, ORGANIZE, AND SPONSOR THE CARSON RIVER WORK AND EDUCATION DAY (AKA: RIVERFEST 2009) ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2009 INCLUDING CHOOSING A LOCATION FOR THE EVENT ALONG THE RIVER** (5:42:59) - Mr. Krahn acknowledged Beverly Eiswert for preparing the minutes. Chairperson Pahl mentioned that the Chamber of Commerce (COC) is a great avenue to get the word out to help with the project. They are working from the Morgan Mill launch area to Deer Run Road and possibly both sides of the river. Vice Chairperson Pugsley mentioned that he had spoken with Chuck Darling who owns land south of the river to expand efforts but it depends on how many people show up. In response to a question, Chairperson Pahl acknowledged that 40 people helped last year and advised that Snapshot Day is the same day. He will call Robin Powell with Audubon regarding a bird project she may be interested in doing. In response to a question, Mr. Krahn replied that Mr. Fahrenbruch usually provides portable toilets and they may need to shuttle people back and forth if they're working both sides of the river. Vice Chairperson Pugsley suggested expanding along the golf course as there's a lot of degradation in that area and more opportunities going upstream from Morgan Mill for vegetation planting. Chairperson Pahl thought they should do more recon to figure out the loose ends and suggested having another meeting once there's more information and look for donations of paint, money, chicken wire, etc. In response to

question, Vice Chairperson Pugsley replied that two foot tall wire was used in the past but three to four foot wire is needed as the beavers have learned to climb it. Mr. Fahrenbruch suggested providing two to three rest stations for portable toilets and a water cooler so as not to have to shuttle people. Chairperson Pahl suggested locations by Deer Run Road, Morgan Mill and the Darling property. Mr. Krahn advised

Proposed Changes - July 27, 2009

## Committee Mission Statement

---

The Carson River Advisory Committee will provide the Carson City Board of Supervisors with informed recommendations on matters concerning the Carson River and its watershed, the Carson City Master Plan as it pertains to the Carson River region, and will participate in the plan's implementation.

---

## Committee Goals

1. Promote and assist with the development of a natural resource plan for public and private lands along the river.
2. Provide leadership through informed recommendations on managing public access and uses for river recreational purposes.
3. Comment on city, state, or federal ordinances, laws, and regulations pertaining to the river's watershed, water quality, storm water, wildlife, and flood plain issues.
4. Participate in and promote on-going environmental education efforts and events.
5. Promote ourselves as the Carson River Advisory Committee.
6. Establish and improve working relationships with all other river agencies and groups.