

**OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF REPORT**

MEETING DATE: April 16, 2012

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3A

STAFF: Juan F. Guzman, Open Space Manager



REQUEST: For Possible Action: To recommend to the Board of Supervisors to authorize staff to proceed with a program towards the acquisition, through donations, of water rights in the vicinity of Mexican Ditch and the Hidden Meadow Planned Unit Development.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

Chairman Scott has raised an opportunity that may result in Carson City being able to obtain some water rights that can be used towards the lands that we presently manage in close proximity to Riverview Park in the vicinity of the Hidden Meadow Planned Unit Development. There are water rights under portions of Marsh Road, Meadow Drive, Kay Court, and Meadow Lane that could be claimed. In addition, there are rights appurtenant to parcels on those streets that could also be claimed and there is a 6.81 acre parcel south of March Road whose rights can also be claimed. All these parcels are located in the immediate vicinity of Mexican Ditch on the east side.

What staff and Chairman Scott proposes is authorization to proceed with writing letters to the property owners of those rights asking them if they are willing to donate them to Carson City for use by the Open Space Program. It will be important to obtain the market value of those rights so staff could offer a tax deduction as a charitable contribution or whichever other way the law allows. Staff will have to obtain the services of an appraiser who is versed on water rights such as Lyn Norberg who has in the past conducted work for the Open Space Program.

This item has been placed on the agenda at the request of Chairman Scott. Please do not hesitate to ask questions about any aspects of the water rights transaction. Mr. Scott is an expert in water rights and practices and that is part of his practice as an engineer with Resource Concepts, Incorporated.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: I move to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to authorize staff to proceed with a program towards the acquisition, through donations, of water rights in the vicinity of Mexican Ditch and the Hidden Meadow Planned Unit Development.

SE1/4 SE1/4 SECTION 15 AND
 PORTION NE1/4 SW1/4 SE1/4
 SECTION 15, T.15 N., R.20 E., M.D.B. & M.

10-57



9.9664 ac - lots
 2.082 - ROADS
 6.81 - open space
 18.858 ac -



Scale: 1" = 200'
 Revised 07.25.2000

HIDDEN MEADOW
 A PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT
 RECORDED 10/14/94
 PUBLIC PLACES DECEDED
 1/22/96, #184330

S2378
 S2378
 SECTION CORNER