

**OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
STAFF REPORT**

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2015

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3B

STAFF: Richard Wilkinson, Senior Natural Resource Specialist

REQUEST: **For Possible Action:** To recommend to the Board of Supervisors the submittal of a grant application to the Carson Water Subconservancy District for watershed improvements in the area of Golden Eagle Lane.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

In July 2015, rain events over the Prison Hill Recreation Area resulted in significant erosion. In one particular area, on the south end on Golden Eagle Lane adjacent to the Golden Eagle Open Space, one dirt bike trail eroded down to a 3’-4’ channel, sediment filled a detention basin, and sediment and water flowed across the road and down to the river. The quantity and velocity of sediment and water washed out large boulders and riprap below Golden Eagle Lane, therefore compromising the stability of the road.

The area is suffering from a lack of healthy native vegetation caused by drought, OHV use on non-sustainable trails, and a series of flash flood events. These events have inundated the Golden Eagle Lane Road and the Carson River with plumes of sediment impacting the water quality of the Carson River. The project goal would be to trap sediment above the road and river to help mitigate erosion, sediment transport and water quality issues along the Carson River from the southeast end of the Prison Hill Recreation Area. Staff has acquired initial cost repairs for repair and stabilization in the area – approximately \$150,000. The proposal would include the installation of a culvert with a stand pipe, retention basin, rock riprap armor below the road, and rock riprap check dams or gabions to help trap sediment above the Golden Eagle Lane and the Carson River.

Due to the estimated cost of the recommended improvements, staff has researched grant opportunities. In September, staff submitted a grant application to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) for their Clean Water Act 319(h) funds. Unfortunately, the request for \$75,000 was not approved.

The quick timeframe of the NDEP application (about six weeks) did not provide sufficient timing for review and discussion by the Committee. For the next application – to the Carson Water Subconservancy District in early 2016 – staff has sufficient time to follow the policies and procedures as outlined by the City which states that grant requests above \$25,000 need approval by the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: I move to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the submittal of a grant application to the Carson Water Subconservancy District for watershed improvements in the area of Golden Eagle Lane.

Golden Eagle Lane Erosion Control Project and Carson River Water Quality Improvement

Project Area



Pictures of Sediment in River



Erosion Trail Access Area



Sediment Deposit 2.5 Ft. above Road



Channel cutting/Incision



Vertical Bank Height Avg. 5 feet



Riverbank of Carson River Edge of Road



Top of erosion looking Down



Erosion along roads



Erosion along road

