

CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the November 6, 2002 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 6, 2002 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Charles Zimmerman
Vice Chairperson Claire Clift
Dan Greytak
Everett Hill

STAFF: Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director
Vern Krahm, Parks Planner
Larry Werner, City Engineer
John Givlin, Senior Project Manager
Randy Bowling, Consultant
Kathleen King, Recording Secretary

NOTE: A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review and inspection during regular business hours.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0001) - Chairperson Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 5:52 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Members Hall and Johnson were absent.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - October 2, 2002 (1-0009) - Member Greytak moved to approve the minutes. Vice Chairperson Clift seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS (1-0019) - None.

D. MODIFICATION OF THE AGENDA (1-0023) - None.

E. DISCLOSURES (1-0024) - None.

F. PUBLIC MEETING:

F-1. PRESENTATION ONLY OF BACKGROUND INFORMATION REGARDING WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROTECTION IN CARSON CITY AND ALONG THE CARSON RIVER (1-0026) - Member Greytak read prepared comments into the record. Chairperson Zimmerman noted that one purpose of the Storm Water Management Plan presentation is public education. He inquired as to how the information will be provided, and Mr. Werner advised that one venue will be the public meetings of the various City advisory committees.

F-2. STATUS REPORT ONLY ON CARSON CITY'S STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (1-0114) - Mr. Werner introduced Mr. Givlin and Mr. Bowling and provided background information on this item. He advised that the presentation will be provided to "the top 100 rate payers that will be coming out of the storm water utility," the general public, and any other interested citizen groups. He requested input from the Committee on the recently developed PowerPoint presentation, a copy of which was distributed to the Committee members and staff prior to the start of the meeting. He narrated the presentation and

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responded to questions regarding the definition of impervious surface, the City-wide statistical analysis of impervious surfaces, development of the rate structure, federal contribution to costs, and the City's urban area boundary. In response to a question regarding major capital projects, Mr. Werner advised that a master plan will be developed which will most likely include a basin-by-basin capital program, funding for which may include special assessment districts, an increase in utility taxes, or an increase in sales taxes.

Mr. Werner acknowledged that stormwater management program needs are separate from flood control. He distributed a summary of Stormwater Costs and a Third Year Cost Distribution chart. He discussed costs associated with flooding, and explained that a main problem with stormwater management is ongoing costs which are currently not funded. He advised of the concern that, over the last several years, gas tax receipts have decreased and funding has been reallocated from other programs to cover stormwater costs. He explained that the stormwater management program is driven by many non-compliance issues along the Carson River such as phosphate, temperature, sedimentation, turbidity, etc. NPDES Phase II programs have a requirement to accomplish compliance. He advised that the stormwater management program is "really a water-quality based program." He acknowledged that the program is expensive, but noted it is also federally mandated.

Mr. Werner discussed costs associated with the moderate rate of implementation recommended by the Storm Drainage Advisory Committee and endorsed by the Board of Supervisors. He discussed fees which could be implemented to offset program costs, such as inspections for new development, permits, etc. He responded to questions regarding maintenance practices, and reviewed the "Basis of User Rates" portion of the Stormwater Management Program. He responded to additional questions regarding the function and purpose of infiltration trenches. He discussed development of a public participation program which will address the level of best management practices being developed for Carson City. In addition, a stormwater management program for the Clear Creek Basin will have to be developed. He responded to questions regarding how new development will be integrated with the best management practices and the method by which the equivalent residential unit was developed.

(1-0695) Chris Miller, of the Bureau of Land Management, advised that Mary Kay Weddell, of the State Water Quality Planning Group, has developed an educational program for school children. She further advised that the Nevada Division of Wildlife sponsors Project WET, another educational program. Mr. Werner discussed education and public involvement requirements associated with the City acquiring its NPDES Phase II permit.

F-3. PRESENTATION ONLY OF A DRAFT NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PHASE II STORMWATER PROGRAM (1-0765) - Mr. Werner referred to the Fact Sheet included in the agenda materials, and reviewed the time table by which the State is required to file its program with the federal government. The State's program will be based on Carson City's program which will, in turn, affect the City of Elko, Douglas County, Lyon County, the Nevada Department of Transportation, and Nellis Air Force Base. The Phase I communities, Clark and Washoe Counties, will be required to accomplish a portion of the phase II requirements. Mr. Werner anticipates receiving a third revision to the draft program in the next couple weeks. Staff will then begin presenting the draft program and Notice of Intent to community groups. Mr. Werner responded to questions regarding responsibility over permit inspections, salary and maintenance allocations from the stormwater management program, staff and equipment requirements, and the method for measuring compliance. Mr. Givlin discussed Environmental Protection Agency estimates of projected costs for Phase II mandated programs.

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Chairperson Zimmerman suggested including a few more slides in the beginning of the PowerPoint presentation which provide additional detail of the program and its categories. Vice Chairperson Clift suggested emphasizing that the program is mandatory for Carson City. Chairperson Zimmerman suggested emphasizing the benefits of complying with federal regulations. Mr. Werner discussed the moratorium imposed by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1975-76 as a result of the City challenging water quality standards on the Carson River. Vice Chairperson Clift suggested emphasizing the importance of water quality standards. Mr. Kastens suggested including photographs of such things as the Fifth Street Ditch during the 1997 flood to emphasize the need for maintenance. Member Greytak suggested including aerial photographs of recently-constructed flood control structures and facilities, and discussion took place with regard to the same. Mr. Werner thanked the Committee for the opportunity to present the program, and requested them to provide additional input on the presentation.

In response to a question, Mr. Werner discussed the process for presenting the stormwater management program to community groups and the general public as part of the requirements for implementing the program. Mr. Kastens suggested that, because of the way the community is constructed, flooding which occurs in areas such as King Street and Washington Street may never be completely eliminated. He advised that detailed diaries were kept of the method for sandbagging these areas during the 1997 flood. He suggested developing a plan to allow flood prone areas on the west side of town to function as channels with proper sandbagging procedures to protect property. Mr. Werner agreed and advised that early warning systems were established in the hills surrounding the City in the early 1970s. He discussed a recently-conducted feasibility study to re-establish an urban stream down Washington Street which would accommodate flows from Ash and Kings Canyons. Discussion took place with regard to the cost, impacts to Mills Park, and funding sources. Mr. Givlin commented that the urban stream would be developed as an amenity, not just a flood facility. The Committee thanked Mr. Werner, Mr. Givlin, and Mr. Bowling for their presentation.

G. COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS (1-1410) - Member Greytak advised of having attended the Clear Creek Watershed Coalition meeting at which Mr. Werner presented the Stormwater Management Program. He provided an overview of the discussion which took place following the presentation. He advised that PBS&J, the firm which conducted the study on the impacts of Highway 50 to the Clear Creek corridor, presented round 3 of their findings which included identification of areas which need work, mitigation measures, and alternatives for correcting problems. Mr. Krahn advised that PBS&J has indicated a great deal of the work can be accomplished with the previously allocated \$3 million. Member Greytak discussed proposed bioengineering projects to correct some of the problems.

H. DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMITTEE MEMBER STATUS REPORTS (1-1485) - Chairperson Zimmerman noted that the Committee will not meet in December. Member Greytak requested a status report on new trail development and dedication of interpretive signage. Mr. Krahn suggested agendizing discussion regarding Committee goals and objectives. Vice Chairperson Clift requested a status report on Question #1, and Mr. Kastens suggested requesting Ed James, of the Carson Water Subconservancy District, to provide the report. Member Greytak requested a report on the project at the Ambrose Carson River Natural Area.

I. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (1-1603) - Mr. Krahn advised that the January 2003 meeting will fall on a holiday. He requested input from the Committee to select an alternate meeting date or to cancel the January meeting altogether. Consensus of the Committee was to schedule an alternate meeting date. Mr.

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Krahn provided a report on the bioengineering workshop coordinated by Paul Pugsley, of the Carson Valley Conservation District, which he and Member Greytak attended. Member Greytak and Mr. Krahn discussed the work being done by Kevin Piper, of the Middle Carson River Conservation District.

J. ADJOURNMENT (1-1746) - Chairperson Zimmerman welcomed Member Hill to the Committee. Vice Chairperson Clift moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. Member Hill seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Minutes of the November 6, 2002 meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee are so approved this _____ day of January, 2003.

CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chair