

City of Carson City
Agenda Report

Item # 13

Date Submitted: February 9, 2010

Agenda Date Requested: February 18, 2010

Time Requested: 20 Minutes

To: Mayor and Supervisors

From: Public Works Department / Parks and Recreation Department

Subject Title: Action to approve the conceptual landscape design and design theme "Carson City's History in Motion" for three interchanges and three grade separations on Phase 1 (northern leg) of the Carson City Freeway. (Vern L. Krahn, Park Planner)

Staff Summary: Staff is requesting review and approval on the proposed project's design theme and conceptual landscape design concepts for Carson City's Freeway Landscape Project. The project's design concepts will enhance the northern freeway's corridor with native/naturalized landscaping, drip irrigation systems, hardscape components, including large boulders, rock talus, visual features, and aesthetic enhancements.

Type of Action Requested: (check one)

Resolution

Ordinance

Formal Action/Motion

Other (Specify)

Does This Action Require A Business Impact Statement: Yes No

Recommended Board Action: I move to approve the conceptual landscape design and design theme "Carson City's History in Motion" for three interchanges and three grade separations on Phase 1 (northern leg) of the Carson City Freeway.

Explanation for Recommended Board Action: Over the past four months, Carson City, Gardeners Reclaiming Our Waysides (GROW), Nevada Department of Transportation, and Winston and Associates consultant team have developed conceptual native/naturalized landscape and hardscape designs, including aesthetic enhancements for three interchanges and three grade separations on Phase 1 (northern leg) of the Carson City Freeway. The project's design theme "Carson City's History in Motion" was created to guide design decisions and convey the City's history through motion and travel as a central element of the northern freeway. In addition, the freeway's landscape design will adhere to NDOT's U.S. 395 Landscape and Aesthetic Corridor Plan. These landscape and aesthetic improvements are being proposed at the North Carson Street, Arrowhead Drive, and College Parkway interchanges and at the Northgate Lane, Emerson Drive, and Northridge Drive/Carmine Street grade separations.

After an extensive public outreach campaign by City staff, the proposed concepts were presented to the public at an informational meeting held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, in the Sierra Room and front lobby of the Carson City Community Center (851 East William Street) from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Also, a project overview presentation was provided by City staff and the design consultant team at 6:30 p.m. in the Sierra Room and was broadcast on public access television. The public was given an opportunity at the meeting to ask questions and was encouraged to provide written comments before leaving or submit their comments later in writing to the City. The deadline for project comments was Tuesday, January 26, 2010. Since the public informational meeting, the City's project management team, including representatives from GROW and NDOT, have directed the design consultant team to make changes to the project's design concepts based on verbal and written comments received during the meeting and on the project's construction budget limitations. It will be these modified design concepts City staff will be presenting at the Board of Supervisors meeting.