

City of Carson City
Agenda Report

Item # 17

Date Submitted: April 27, 2010

Agenda Date Requested: May 6, 2010

Time Requested: 20 Minutes

To: Mayor and Supervisors

From: Parks and Recreation Department - Open Space Division

Subject Title: Action to accept the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Committee to pursue efforts with the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railway in order to purchase fee title for properties owned by Mr. Donald Bently and located in the Carson River Canyon, APNs 10-011-24 and 10-011-25. (Juan F. Guzman)

Staff Summary: Through his attorney, Scott Brooke, Mr. Donald Bently has authorized further proceedings and has requested specific information regarding the funding and timing of the acquisition of his lands located in the Carson River Canyon (Exhibit A). Representatives of the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railway and the Carson City Open Space Division have discussed the possibility of joining forces towards the joint acquisition of these lands. This action proposes the approval of an offer to purchase Mr. Bently's lands needed by the V&T Commission for right-of-way, with Carson City purchasing the remainder as open space.

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 accept the recommendation of the Open Space Advisory Committee to pursue efforts with the Nevada Commission for the Reconstruction of the V&T Railway in order to purchase fee title for properties owned by Mr. Donald Bently and located in the Carson River Canyon, APNs 10-011-24 and 10-011-25.

Explanation for Recommended Board Action: Attached as Exhibit B is a draft letter prepared by the V&T Commission providing for the basis of an offer to Mr. Bently. The offer stipulates that the parcels of land will be purchased in a double escrow by Carson City and the V&T Commission for \$1.6 million. The two parcels in question encompass approximately 460 acres of land. On April 29, 2010, the Open Space Advisory Committee by unanimous vote took action to recommend approval of the purchase of the Bently property in coordination with the V&T Commission (Exhibit C). By joining forces with the V& T Commission, Carson City increases the opportunity to purchase this land. The Bently parcels adjacent to the Serpa ownership in the Carson Canyon have been designated as a high priority for the Open Space Program. This potential acquisition furthers the implementation of the Carson City Aquatic Trail and is in keeping with the provisions of the Carson River Master Plan and the Open Space Master Plan. This proposed acquisition is compatible and further compliments the transfers of lands from the Bureau of Land Management into Carson City ownership through the Carson City Federal Lands Bill omnibus legislation. By coordinating with the V&T Commission, Carson City's opportunity to complete this transaction is increased. Mr. Bently has expressed a favorable disposition to sell these lands to the V&T Railroad Commission. At the close of escrow Open Space will own approximately 471.2 acres and the V&T Commission 25 acres.

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation:

- Carson City Open Space Master Plan
- Unified Pathways Master Plan
- Carson River Master Plan
- Nevada Revised Statutes, Chapters 244.275, 342
- Carson City Municipal Code Chapter 13.06