

**CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CARSON CITY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
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A joint meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee, the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee, and the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 16, 2002 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**CARSON RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Chairperson Charles Zimmerman, Vice Chairperson Claire Clift, Dan Greytak, Thomas Hall

**OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE:** Acting Chairperson Bruce Scott, Vice Chairperson Dan Jacquet, Michael Fischer, Ron Pacheco, Margaret Robinson

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION:** Chairperson Jim Dunn, Vice Chairperson Stacie Wilke, Lou Cabrera, Donna DePauw, Tom Keeton, Jon Plank, John Simms

**CARSON CITY STAFF:** Parks and Recreation Director Steve Kastens, Open Space Manager Juan Guzman, Parks Planner Vern Krahn, Planning and Community Development Director Walter Sullivan

**A. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM (1-0001)** - Open Space Advisory Committee ("OSAC") Acting Chairperson Scott called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and requested each of the Committee/Commission members to introduce themselves for the record. OSAC Vice Chairperson Dan Jacquet advised of his role as Management Lead for the BLM Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment, and that he had requested Acting Chairperson Scott to chair the meeting. A quorum of each Committee/Commission was present. OSAC Chairperson Hartman and Member Bird were absent. Parks and Recreation Commissioners Martel and Osborne were absent.

**B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Open Space Advisory Committee August 19, 2002 (1-0056; 2-0001)** - Member Robinson moved to approve the minutes. Member Pacheco seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT (1-0065)** - None.

**D. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA (1-0070)** - None.

**E. DISCLOSURES (1-0073)** - Acting Chairperson Scott referred to OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet's earlier disclosure regarding his involvement in the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment.

**F. PUBLIC MEETING**

**F-1. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO PROVIDE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE PRELIMINARY ISSUES IDENTIFIED AS PART OF THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT PINE NUT MOUNTAINS PLAN UPDATE (1-0078)** - Mr. Guzman discussed the purpose of the meeting and pointed out the boundaries of the Pine Nut Mountains on a displayed map. He advised of a tour of the El Dorado Canyon in which he and Mr. Kastens participated together with BLM staff last Friday. He pointed out the plan area in relation to the Carson River, several parcels which are part of the Southern Nevada Public

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Lands Management Act ("SNPLMA") Round 4 nomination, and the boundaries of the Urban Interface Plan. He provided a brief overview of the staff report.

In response to a question, OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet explained that mineral withdrawals are recommended in accordance with specific land use plans and implemented by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Mineral withdrawal orders remain in effect for a maximum of twenty years at which time they are required to be reviewed. Vice Chairperson Jacquet reviewed the BLM's mineral classification system, as follows: (1) Sand, gravel, and Construction Materials - sold or given to governments on a discretionary basis; (2) Mineral Leasing - includes geothermal, oil and gas, coal, etc. which are accessed on a discretionary basis. Once a lease is issued, however, the lessee can develop the property for mineral extraction; (3) Minerals. As classified under the 1872 Mining Law, minerals include gold, silver, limestone, clay, etc. The law provides for location of claims and, if a valuable mineral is present, mining without government interference. Vice Chairperson Jacquet pointed out that land and land uses must be considered in light of whether or not mining is compatible. If mining impacts are considered to be incompatible in an area, the withdrawal process would need to be implemented by the City and the BLM. A recommendation would be made within the plan to withdraw specific parcels of land from the operation of the Mining Law and forwarded to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior. Vice Chairperson Jacquet discussed the importance of considering, in advance, whether or not mineral extraction should be allowed in the area in order to avoid a situation similar to that which the City of Reno has experienced over the "kitty litter" mine.

In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Jacquet discussed the process for permitting a mining claim. He advised that a community cannot deny a claimant's ability to develop a mine. He noted that environmental impacts can be mitigated but necessary features of mining, such as digging large open pits, cannot be prevented. He advised that a mine cannot be denied based on its location. If a deposit exists on public land and valid mining claims are properly recorded, a community would be forced to accept the mining operation. Vice Chairperson Jacquet reiterated the importance of a community evaluating the issue of mineral extraction. He suggested there may be many places in the Pine Nut Mountains where mining would be appropriate; however, there are other areas which may be too sensitive, within the viewshed, etc. He advised that this policy has worked within the Urban Interface Plan since 1996.

In response to a further question, Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised of an understanding that the Pine Nut Mountains do not have a great deal of potential "in today's mineral market." There are not many mining claims in existence, and the likelihood of a large mine developing in and around Carson City is fairly small. With regard to locatable minerals in Carson City, Acting Chairperson Scott inquired as to the range of potential recommendations which could be made to the Board of Supervisors. Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised that visual impacts would be a consideration and that this issue is addressed in the Urban Interface Plan. He noted that the Urban Interface Plan doesn't address the "distant view of the Pine Nuts, but much of that isn't even in Carson City." He advised that watershed would be another concern because of the negative impact mining can have on water quality. Recreation would be an additional aspect to consider in conjunction with accesses through Brunswick Canyon, El Dorado Canyon, etc. It is standard practice to fence off a large mining site for public safety and alteration of access routes may be required. In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised that Brunswick Canyon drains into the Carson River. El Dorado Canyon is lesser known but has a major perennial stream that drains to the Carson River just west of Dayton. Most of the land in the Carson City portion of the Pine Nut Mountains drains to the Carson River. Vice Chairperson Jacquet

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advised that the summary being developed by Tom Crawford, BLM Team Leader for the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment, generally indicates a concern regarding mineral extraction within the urban environments. The northern and western portions of the Pine Nuts are being more seriously considered for mining withdrawal recommendations; whereas the central and eastern portions are not. Vice Chairperson Jacquet acknowledged that mining withdrawals would not affect existing claims. The withdrawal protects from future discoveries and claims for the term of the withdrawal.

In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised that the five statements of the Urban Interface Plan listed on page 2 of the staff report are a reiteration of the management features of the plan. If that type of management is appropriate for the rest of public land in Carson City, the provisions of the Urban Interface Plan could simply be adopted. Vice Chairperson Jacquet suggested that the Urban Interface Plan may not be exactly analogous. The Urban Interface Plan is open for aggregate mining at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors and the BLM. In terms of leasable minerals, there is very little or no potential for the area outside the Urban Interface Plan and within Carson City. There are no oil and gas resources, no coal, no geothermal to speak of. The geothermal within the Pinion Hills area of the Urban Interface Plan has already been withdrawn. Locatable minerals could be dealt with on a specific basis, by watershed, and the area could be left open to sand and gravel development based on the discretion of the Board of Supervisors and the BLM. Vice Chairperson Jacquet suggested that much more detail needs to be considered in terms of what should be recommended for withdrawal. In response to a question, he clarified the meaning of aggregate resources as applied to construction materials. He responded to additional questions regarding the length of time and the parameters by which a mining claim can remain open. He discussed the rights of a mining claimant to conduct exploration which can also cause significant disturbance. He discussed the innovative nature of the Urban Interface Plan and that Carson City was a pioneer in using the tool of mineral withdrawal for the purpose of open space and recreation.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Plank referred to his comments at the September 3, 2002 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting with regard to mineral extraction. He discussed the mining operations in Elko and White Pine Counties which would not have existed but for advanced technology. He expressed a concern that mineral withdrawal could eliminate a much-needed revenue source for Carson City. With regard to aggregate withdrawal, Commissioner Plank advised that the pit in Brunswick Canyon contains concrete-quality sand. After access to Brunswick Canyon was cut off by the 1997 flood, the sand now has to be hauled to Carson City from Fernley. This increases the price per yard by approximately \$6. Commissioner Plank acknowledged the concern regarding access to Brunswick Canyon being through a residential area, but advised that restoration of the bridge to Brunswick Canyon would create a separate and distinct access. He advised that the Regional Transportation Commission has prioritized restoration of the bridge through a federal grant and 20% match in FY 04/05. He discussed the possibility of seepage through Brunswick Canyon and advised that the City will be investigating this to possibly capture the resource. He suggested preserving the possibility of mineral extraction may be valuable to Carson City within the next 5-10 years. In response to a question, OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised that the Mining Law doesn't provide discretion with regard to scenery or recreation. Another law or an amendment to the Mining Law would be required which would have to be accomplished by congressional act. Vice Chairperson Jacquet acknowledged that the BLM strongly relies on the recommendation of the Board of Supervisors with regard to such things as sales of mineral material. He further acknowledged that the sand resource in Brunswick Canyon is valuable and that it is still available under the Urban Interface Plan. The pit was closed because of neighborhood concerns

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regarding trucks traveling over Sedge Road and Deer Run Road. If an alternative access was restored, extractions may again be authorized. CRAC Chairperson Zimmerman advised that although the lower half of El Dorado Canyon has been severely disturbed by aggregate mining activities, the water which drains from the canyon into the Carson River is high quality. OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet responded to additional questions regarding environmental protection mitigation measures required for mining activities, environmental contamination risks associated with mining, and the possibility of amending the Pine Nut Mountains Plan if necessary. He discussed the importance of determining the value of subjective elements such as aesthetics.

(1-1090) Tom Quigley expressed no objection to extraction operations on BLM property as long as the materials can be transported from the extraction site on a route other than through a residential neighborhood. He requested that if the Urban Interface Plan doesn't specifically provide for this, that it be amended accordingly.

**OSAC Member Fischer moved to recommend to the Bureau of Land Management and the Board of Supervisors to treat the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment the same way that the Urban Interface Plan has been treated in reference to mineral development. OSAC Member Pacheco seconded the motion.** In response to a question, OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised that the withdrawal is described by area so, if there was a portion of the plan area where a valuable mineral was discovered, it could be excluded from the withdrawal. Parks and Recreation Commissioner Plank advised that his earlier comments were applicable to everything east of the River viewshed. He acknowledged a concern regarding hillside scarring, and advised of the approach taken by the American Borade Mining Company in Death Valley, California to relocate an access shaft once Death Valley was designated a national monument. OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet acknowledged that water quality impacts would be covered by the permitting process. Mr. Kastens advised of the CAD system which can be used to determine visual impacts. Discussion took place regarding the intent of the motion, and Acting Chairperson Scott explained that aggregate resources would still be "fair game" subject to an additional planning level; mining of the other two classifications of minerals would be prohibited. CRAC Vice Chairperson Clift agreed with protecting water resources now and, if something should happen within the 20-year time period which would require a review of the recommendations made, "so be it." In response to a question, Parks and Recreation Commissioner Plank suggested that the sand pit could be used now if it were available; the availability of oil, gas, and other precious minerals is unknown. He expressed a concern regarding "crossing the bridge again," and suggested that the viewshed could be protected with an amendment to the motion. He expressed agreement with protecting the water resource as well. Acting Chairperson Scott called for public comment on the motion.

(1-1397) Tom Quigley requested an amendment to the motion to indicate "some kind of protection for the neighbors out in the Pinion Hills area about hauling that gravel out." He expressed a concern that the Brunswick Canyon sand pit will be reopened for excavation of sand and gravel without any provision being made for protecting the area residents. Acting Chairperson Scott suggested dispensing with the current motion and supplementing it with more detail at a later time. He called for a vote on the pending motion; **motion carried 15-1.**

(1-1454) Kevin Walsh provided background information on his history in Carson City and his experience riding motorcycles in the Pine Nut Mountains. He discussed his participation in the Pine Nut Mountains Plan

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Update process as a member of a subgroup charged with addressing access in Carson City. He reviewed the various activities which take place in the Pine Nut Mountains, and discussed the buffer zone and designated routes proposed for that portion of the Pine Nuts which lies within Douglas County. He advised that the topography in Carson City creates a different set of regulatory challenges. The only two legitimate points of access in Carson City are the designated OHV areas on Mexican Dam Road and Sedge Road. Mr. Walsh discussed the composition of the subgroup which has participated in the planning process, and advised that consensus of the subgroup has been to recommend development of a third OHV access point. He explained that OHV staging typically occurs near the Deer Run Road Bridge which is private property. He suggested that use of this area will most likely not change unless an additional staging area is created. He discussed the various types of motorcycle activities, including motocross, trail riding, and play riding. He suggested that an ideal OHV access point would include a motocross track and a play area, as well as trail access. He noted that the access should be feasible for other uses, pointed out the proposed access point on a displayed map, and discussed its benefits.

Mr. Walsh provided background information on the Pine Nut Mountains Trails Association established in 1998. He advised that the Pine Nut Mountains Plan will allow motorcycles; the question is to what extent. He explained that the Pine Nut Mountains have traditionally been classified by the BLM as "open." He agreed that a management plan is necessary with the increasing popularity of OHV activities. He advised that the Pine Nut Mountains Trails Association agrees with the concept of management and that some trails should be closed or rerouted. He suggested that in the urban interface area, trails should be limited to existing routes. He indicated that the Power Line Road would have to be modified to separate "open" areas from "limited" areas because of the close proximity to a residential area. He suggested that designating the entire area as "limited" would create serious enforcement issues, and that limiting the area to existing roads and trails would create a problem for objectively defining them. He read a portion of a Report and Recommendation of the PNMTA into the record. In response to a question, Mr. Walsh concurred with the opinion that limiting access to existing roads and trails "is a good way to go because there are enough roads and trails out there." He clarified that "road" and "trail" should be defined. In response to a further question, he discussed the importance of education with regard to overused and misused trails and access points. He agreed with more regulation for the City's viewshed. OSAC Member Fischer suggested developing an education program for motorcycle riders similar to that which was implemented by the Coast Guard Auxiliary for personal water craft. Discussion took place with regard to the same.

In response to a question regarding the access point proposed by Mr. Walsh, OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised that management plans differentiate uses on a recreation and public purpose ("R&PP") lease or patent versus public land that is managed by the BLM. He acknowledged that an R&PP lease could be developed into a staging/play area which would supersede a "limited" or "limited to existing roads and trails" designation. He reviewed the three categories of OHV management, as follows: (1) Open. Travel is allowed anywhere on public land, whether it is a road or trail or cross country; however, unnecessary or undue degradation is prohibited. In response to a question, he advised that construction of tracks would not be allowed under this category. (2) Limited includes two classifications: Limited to existing roads and trails; and Designated which involves inventorying existing roads and trails, deciding which can be used, mapping, and posting them. (3) Closed. Generally no OHV use, although some county or BLM roads may exist within a closed area. Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised that most of the lands in Carson City, over which the BLM Field Office has purview, are open. There are specific areas which have been categorized as limited because

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of urban interface or environmental issues. There are a few areas which are closed, some of which are seasonal due to wildlife concerns. Vice Chairperson Jacquet suggested considering all the categories as appropriate within the Pine Nut Mountains Plan. He noted that the difficulty lies in determining how to apply the categories. He referred to the comments and suggestions made by Mr. Walsh and discussed various applications of the preceding categories. He agreed with Mr. Walsh's suggestion to limit the majority of OHV use in the Pine Nuts to existing roads and trails.

In response to the suggestion that some areas should be segregated from OHV use, Mr. Walsh commented that this may be premature. He suggested that impact studies should first be conducted with regard to noise, dust, etc. He stated that as long as "there are a good number of challenging, fun trails people are going to use them," and this will mitigate environmental consequences. He suggested that more restrictions in the urban interface environment would benefit the viewshed. He advised he would not be opposed to segregated areas "as long as it was based on some really good grounds." He suggested there may be an enforcement problem if the area has traditionally been used for OHV activities. He expressed favor for such things as wilderness study areas where people could "enjoy a different kind of use and different kind of experience." In response to a question, Mr. Walsh advised that El Dorado Canyon is one of the most popular thoroughfares for ATVs, and suggested there shouldn't be any problem as long as users "stick to the trail." He advised that closing El Dorado Canyon would, in turn, close a large trail network which leads into the canyon.

Parks and Recreation Commissioner Keeton expressed a concern regarding segregation of equestrians and bicyclists from motorcycles and ATVs. Mr. Walsh suggested there is more of a conflict between mountain bikers and motorcycles than between motorcycles and equestrians. He advised he has never had a problem with an equestrian, and that most dirt bike riders are pretty conscious of equestrians. He indicated that most of the problem occurs in the urban interface area which was the reason BLM developed the staging area on Mexican Dam Road. One side of the parking lot is for OHV users to unload and go one way into the Pine Nuts, and the other side is for equestrians to unload and go the other way. Mr. Walsh expressed the opinion that the two uses have not conflicted very often. He agreed that the two uses don't mix, but indicated that OHV users need to be responsible and use common sense to turn off their motorcycles or ATVs in the presence of an equestrian. CRAC Member Hall pointed out that, from Mexican Dam south, there are two primary roads, Mexican Dam Road and the Pole Line Road. The original Mexican Dam Road was closed off a few years ago by a private property owner. Other than the Pole Line Road, the remaining access is through a residential area. At this point, the Pole Line Road is suitable for motorcycles and four wheel drive vehicles only as mountain bikers generally don't ride in heavy sand. The road is rather narrow so there most likely wouldn't be too many motorcycles and horses coming face to face. If users "can't deal with the sand conditions on the Power Line Road," they ride their motorcycles through the residential areas. Mountain bikers and equestrians are also riding through the residential area, and joggers are running through it. All this use has deteriorated the roads in the residential area. Member Hall advised that the City recently extended the pavement which has made a wonderful difference; however, the improvement has resulted in additional use. Since this is the only access road to the Johnson Lane area, Member Hall suggested that if designations are not made, the problem will continue to evolve. He advised that the City has designated the roads in the area as private. He indicated that it is illegal to operate an unlicensed, off-road vehicle within 500' feet of a residential area, and that the Pole Line Road is within the 500'. Mr. Walsh read a portion of the ordinance into the record, and agreed that what has been occurring is not compliant with the ordinance. He referred to his earlier comment that the Pole Line Road is a "nice, visible barrier or boundary but it doesn't work because

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there are too many homes too close to it.” He reiterated his suggestion to modify the Pole Line Road, and advised that there are alternative routes. Member Hall acknowledged there are plenty of east/west connecting roads, but the primary north/south roads are Mexican Dam and the Pole Line Roads. Discussion took place regarding the buffer zone proposed by the Douglas County representatives involved in the plan update process. Mr. Walsh acknowledged the limited north/south access, but suggested there may be additional routes further to the east other than the Mexican Dam and Pole Line Roads. Acting Chairperson Scott expressed appreciation for Mr. Walsh’s participation in this meeting. He commended him on the level of accountability and responsibility he was advocating.

(1-2685) Tom Quigley expressed opposition to an additional access road/staging area near the area of Deer Run Road and the Carson River. He advised that the proposed area is adjacent to the Ambrose Natural Area, and that staging areas are available within two miles at Mexican Dam Road and Sedge Road. He expressed the opinion that three access areas within a 2-3 mile radius would be “a little bit too much.” He advised that within the past 2-3 years, several companies have proposed an access road for an extraction operation; however, the Board of Supervisors has disagreed.

(1-2725) Brian Doyal advised that a lot of off-road use has been concentrated resulting in devastation of the area. He suggested spreading out the use, mapping existing roads, and addressing the issue of enforcement. He acknowledged that he advocates no new roads.

**OSAC Member Fischer moved to recommend to the Board of Supervisors and the Bureau of Land Management to support the use of off-road vehicles on existing, designated trails with the understanding that the concept of any kind of new access would be dealt with at a later time through the Parks and Recreation Department and the Bureau of Land Management. OSAC Member Robinson seconded the motion.** CRAC Vice Chairperson Clift referred to Mr. Walsh’s proposal to create a new access/staging area, and requested that the Carson River Advisory Committee have some input. She expressed a concern regarding runoff into the Carson River from the proposed staging area, and that development of the V&T Railroad may be affected. Mr. Walsh clarified that the proposed staging area and “the pit” would be distinct although adjacent to each other. He acknowledged that there would be runoff concerns associated with the proposed riding area, but suggested that a mechanism could be developed to mitigate the runoff. He indicated that the proposed riding area “is a long ways off” and that he was simply pointing out the area’s potential with regard to “dealing with the issues.” He suggested that road and trail inventories will most likely not take place, and requested the Committee and Commission members to consider vehicle access to the Pine Nuts in the context of all uses, including firewood cutting/gathering, pine nut gathering, rock collecting, etc. Restricting off-road vehicles impinges on everyone’s rights.

OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet referred to the terms used in the motion, and discussed the “tools” to designate areas for existing roads and trails which can be mapped and posted or to designate a road or trail which may be more appropriate for the urban interface or more sensitive areas. He suggested that the motion accomplishes a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors for the BLM to use those tools, using their discretion in the planning process, and the general philosophy to leave much of the land open to existing roads and trails. OSAC Member Fischer acknowledged that this was the intent of his motion. OSAC Member Robinson acknowledged her understanding of the motion. Acting Chairperson Scott called for a vote on the pending motion; **motion carried 16-0.**

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Acting Chairperson Scott referred to earlier comments by Tom Quigley requesting consideration of specific limitations on access by large trucks through the Deer Run Road residential area. He requested input from the Committee/Commission members regarding possible action on Mr. Quigley's request, and consensus was that the matter should be considered within the individual advisory bodies.

Mr. Guzman referred to the Recreational, Visual and Scenic Resources section of the staff report and reviewed the same. **CRAC Chairperson Zimmerman moved to accept Mr. Guzman's description as a motion for the committees to move forward. PRC Vice Chairperson Wilke seconded the motion.** Acting Chairperson Scott called for discussion and public comment on the motion; when none was forthcoming, he called for a vote on the pending motion. [As CRAC Member Hall had left the meeting room prior to the motion being made, CRAC Vice Chairperson Clift noted that a quorum of the Carson River Advisory Committee was not present.] **Motion carried 15-0-1.**

Mr. Guzman referred to the Fire Management section of the staff report and reviewed the same. In response to a question, OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet indicated that the issue is a matter of public value regarding who takes the greatest responsibility for managing forest and desert lands in relationship to the community. The question is whether the BLM should actively manage all the public lands surrounding "every bit of private" or the boundary should be drawn tighter into town, such as at the edge of Prison Hill or the edge of C Hill. Vice Chairperson Jacquet commented that Mr. Guzman's recommendation is "sufficiently vague" to cover all the considerations. He indicated that the recommendation could get more specific to include "the actual edge of town," which would protect the town from catastrophic fire and the wild lands from fires that start in town. He commented that fire protection and fuels management is one of BLM's most expensive functions. Acting Chairperson Scott commented that fuels management is less expensive than putting fires out, but often there is no budget for fuels management. From a visual and watershed perspective, these issues are important in terms of the impacts of major fires. In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Jacquet suggested the motion could be stated to indicate a priority for managing fuels with the idea of a ring around the City rather than protecting isolated parcels of private land. CRAC Vice Chairperson Clift commented that not protecting rural private properties tends to be a political issue, and expressed a concern with regard to taking such a stand. She expressed a preference for more vagueness and read a portion of staff's recommendation into the record. She suggested that a fire which starts on a private parcel in the Pine Nuts will most likely lead to a catastrophic fire with the potential of burning the entire range. She expressed the hope for implementing active management practices across the entire Pine Nut range and not just the ring around the City. OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet commented that managing healthy forests involves managing fuels as well as natural and prescribed fire. It is that much more difficult to allow natural processes to occur when the priority is for complete suppression on a piece of private property in the middle of a forest. As a community, establishing a priority for protecting the core of Carson City from wildland fire and, secondarily, protecting other private properties in the midst of the forest makes sense. On the other hand, the BLM would prefer to try and manage forest fuels using fire. Vice Chairperson Jacquet suggested recommending a focus point for the BLM. CRAC Vice Chairperson Clift commented that there is an unnatural forest environment because of the fire suppression practices used over the last 100 years. There are so many stems per acre in the Pine Nuts that if a so-called natural fire was allowed to burn, there probably wouldn't be a normal, natural reaction to the fire. She suggested that it would not be beneficial to take a more passive fire suppression view of the Pine Nuts at this point in time because of the existing conditions, and that it would be detrimental to not be very proactive in suppressing and addressing fire issues.

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OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet acknowledged that a BLM fire management plan exists which includes the Pine Nuts. Generally, the magnitude of suppression efforts increase “the closer you get to town.” The Pine Nuts are classified as “full suppression” in and around Carson City. The areas further east, toward Fallon and beyond, are in the lowest category where some effort to put out fire is made but generally the fires burn. Fires in and around houses and private property have the highest priority for resources no matter where they are and no matter what the condition of the forest. Vice Chairperson Jacquet advised of a general perception among the public that prescribed fire is not worth the risk, although it is the most cost effective fuel management tool. Because of this public perception, the BLM has begun to rely more heavily on mechanical and special treatments. Mr. Guzman clarified that staff’s suggestion was for the BLM to address fuels management more aggressively. Acting Chairperson Scott called for public comment; however, none was provided. **PRC Vice Chairperson Wilke moved that Carson City’s position should be to encourage the BLM to actively manage fire fuels in order to avoid the possibility of catastrophic events and to recommend adoption of this position by the Board of Supervisors. Parks and Recreation Commissioner Keeton seconded the motion. Motion carried 16-0.**

Mr. Guzman referred to the Urban Interface Management section of the staff report and discussed the City’s request to reserve the ability to accommodate the V&T right-of-way on lands acquired by the BLM through the SNPLMA process. In response to a question, he advised that the staff report recommends managing lands which have been acquired through the SNPLMA process in accordance with the plan, with the exception that the City wants to make very clear to the BLM its desire to construct the V&T Railroad through some of those lands. Acting Chairperson Scott called for public comment; however, none was provided. **OSAC Member Fischer moved that, in the land acquisition by the BLM, the City recommends allowing access for the V&T Railroad. Parks and Recreation Commissioner Keeton seconded the motion.** In response to a comment, OSAC Member Fischer clarified the intent of his motion that, in the event the Carson City Board of Supervisors moves forward on the V&T Railroad, the BLM would allow access to that portion of the lands being sought in the transfer. Acting Chairperson Scott called again for public comment and, when none was forthcoming, called for a vote on the pending motion. **Motion carried 16-0.**

(1-3669) In response to a question regarding statement 2 of Carson City’s position on the interface area covered by the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Update, Mr. Guzman advised that the issue of designating lands for potential disposal through the R&PP Act is addressed by the Urban Interface Plan. In response to a further question, Mr. Guzman explained that the Pine Nut Mountains Plan addresses landscapes in very general terms. He advised that Mr. Sullivan and City Manager Berkich agreed with BLM Director Singlaub to consider amendments to the Urban Interface Plan but not as part of the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Update. Mr. Kastens advised that the Urban Interface Plan amendments will take place at a later time. Mr. Guzman acknowledged that the Urban Interface Plan is generally a part of the Pine Nut Mountains Plan, but it also covers areas such as the Virginia Range which is not part of the Pine Nut Mountains Plan. The only portion being discussed in conjunction with the Pine Nut Mountains Plan is the Silver Saddle Ranch, and the emphasis is on broad landscapes. Mr. Guzman invited Mr. Quigley to submit a statement, but advised there is no intent to discuss the Urban Interface Plan in detail at this time. Mr. Quigley expressed the opinion that changes should be made to the Urban Interface Plan prior to the Board of Supervisors making a recommendation on the Pine Nut Mountains Plan. He indicated he would be submitting opinions regarding land uses in the Ambrose Natural Area. OSAC Vice Chairperson Jacquet acknowledged that the Pine Nut Mountains Plan area includes a portion of the urban interface area. The Urban Interface Plan also includes the Virginia Range and the area

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north of Carson City. The land use plan decisions which were incorporated in the Urban Interface Plan will be revisited at a future date through revision of the interface plan. Issues regarding land tenure along Deer Run Road will be kept within the interface plan. There are portions of the interface that will be addressed in the Pine Nut Plan such as the OHV designations because the Urban Interface Plan did not include this. Vice Chairperson Jacquet acknowledged the need to be very explicit with the public regarding the issues being addressed in the two plans, and advised Mr. Quigley his point was well taken. Mr. Guzman explained that the Urban Interface Plan is very specific and the Pine Nut Mountains Plan is general landscape.

**G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMITTEE MEMBER STATUS REPORTS (2-0007) - Mr. Guzman advised that unless the appraisals on the Gilbert and Stanton Park properties are received within the next two weeks, the next regular meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee will not take place until October. In response to a question, he advised that the appraisers are awaiting information from other sources.**

**H. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (2-0016) - None.**

**I. ADJOURNMENT (1-3887) - Acting Chairperson Scott thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Carson River Advisory Committee for their time and participation. CRAC Vice Chairperson Clift moved to adjourn the Carson River Advisory Committee meeting. CRAC Member Greytak seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. A motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Commission. (2-0020) Member Fischer moved to adjourn the Open Space Advisory Committee meeting. Member Pacheco seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

The Minutes of the September 16, 2002 joint meeting of the Carson River Advisory Committee, the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee, and the Carson City Parks and Recreation Commission are so approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of October, 2002.

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CHARLES ZIMMERMAN, Chair