#### CARSON CITY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 15, 2002 in the Community Center Sierra Room, 851 East William Street, Carson City, Nevada.

**PRESENT:** Acting Chairperson Bruce Scott

Michael Fischer Ron Pacheco Margaret Robinson

**STAFF:** Steve Kastens, Parks and Recreation Director

Juan Guzman, Open Space Manager 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 AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM (1-0001) Acting Chairperson Scott called the meeting to order. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Chairperson Hartman, Vice Chairperson Jacquet and Member Bird were absent.
- **B.** APPROVAL OF MINUTES June 17, 2002 (1-0007) Member Fischer moved to approve the minutes. Member Pacheco seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.
- **C. PUBLIC COMMENT** (1-0013) None.
- **D. MODIFICATION OF AGENDA** (1-0020) None.
- **E. DISCLOSURES** (1-0029) None.
- F. PUBLIC MEETING

# F-1. PRESENTATION BY CHAD GOURLEY, MANAGER OF OTIS BAY, L.L.C. RIVERINE CONSULTANTS, REGARDING GEOMORPHOLOGY STUDIES OF RIVERINE ENVIRONMENTS (1-0050) - Mr. Gourley provided background information on Otis Bay Riverine Consultants and his

experience with projects on the Truckee River. He narrated a Power Point presentation on the restoration plan for the Truckee River, including historic information regarding wildlife, encroachment, and protection; review of river geomorphology; results of Army Corps of Engineers projects on flows, erosion, landscape, and wildlife; identification of problems on the Truckee River; and development of the restoration plan. Mr. Gourley advised of the purchase, in conjunction with The Nature Conservancy, Washoe County, and the Cities of Reno and Sparks, of a portion of river corridor along the old McCarran Ranch property. It is this section of river for which Otis Bay Consultants is developing the restoration plan. Mr. Gourley displayed slides of the subject section of river which was straightened in the 1960s, and reviewed the plan for restoring the forest and the river geometry. Plan objectives include reconnecting the river to its flood plain, increasing the river's sinuosity, decreasing the channel slope, decreasing the width, transporting bed sediment frequently, and reinitiating meander lobe migration.

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Mr. Gourley reviewed the botanical objectives of the plan, which include restoration of the native shrub under story, propagation and promotion of plant species diversity, restoration of predisturbance willow communities, discouragement and reduction of noxious weeds. He displayed slides of the existing river corridor and conceptual photographs of the river corridor restored. He discussed the importance of botanical complexity, restoration of aquatic habitat, and increasing hydraulic habitat complexity. He reviewed wildlife objectives, including recovery of sensitive species populations. He discussed benefits to the public of the restoration project: improvement of water quality through increased nutrient uptake, attenuation of flood peaks by re-establishing the active flood plain and protecting the remaining flood plain areas, providing green space for the community, and accommodation of a statewide demand for stream-related recreation. He briefly reviewed the studies conducted on the river environment, displayed slides depicting the project boundaries, and reviewed elements of the project to recreate the meander sequence and reconnect the river to its flood plain. In doing so, a series of different wetlands and wetland habitats will be created, and the old channel will be filled in and replaced with the new channel.

Mr. Gourley displayed and reviewed slides of the 102 Ranch gravel pit at Tracy and discussed proposed restoration projects for the same. He reviewed slides depicting similar projects in other states, including the east fork of the Sevier River and the Provo River in Utah. He responded to questions regarding funding sources for the Truckee River project and costs associated with restoration projects.

- F-2. ACTION AUTHORIZING THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT REGARDING GEOMORPHOLOGY STUDIES OF THE CARSON RIVER (1-0894) Mr. Guzman reviewed the staff report. Member Fischer moved that the Committee Chairman sign a letter of support to the Bureau of Land Management regarding geomorphological studies of the Carson River. Member Pacheco seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0. Acting Chairperson Scott suggested providing the same information and presentation to the Carson River Advisory Committee. He thanked Mr. Gourley for his presentation.
- WITHIN THE CARSON RIVER, VIRGINIA RANGE, AND CARSON RANGE WHICH MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR NOMINATION FOR PURCHASE AS PART OF ROUND IV OF THE SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT; and F-4. ACTION TO REVIEW AND RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THE ADOPTION OF THE PRIORITY LIST OF PROPERTIES AS ESTABLISHED BY THE TRI-COUNTY GROUP (CARSON, DOUGLAS AND WASHOE COUNTIES) FOR POTENTIAL ACQUISITION AS PART OF THE SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT ACT, ROUND IV (1-0965) Mr. Guzman distributed a printed version of the Tri-County Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act Process and Recommendations Power Point presentation. He provided background information on the process to develop the joint SNPLMA nomination. He advised that the Tri-County Group has had several meetings with U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management representatives to ensure these agencies are willing and able to support the nomination. He introduced Craig Bird, Open Space Volunteer, provided background information on his experience, and expressed appreciation for his assistance.

Mr. Guzman narrated the Power Point presentation, which included the list of recommended properties. He pointed out the Carson City properties on a displayed map. He acknowledged that the nomination priorities are based on funding from SNPLMA sales, not reimbursement as was done with the Bernhard property. He noted the Gilbert property as an exception and explained that Mr. Gilbert is interested in selling his property

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as soon as possible. The proposal is to purchase the Gilbert property with open space funds and include it in the SNPLMA nomination in order that the U.S. Forest Service can purchase the property from the City in approximately a year. Mr. Guzman advised that the U.S. Forest Service has expressed a willingness to keep the land in perpetuity. In response to a question, he advised that the appraisal on the Gilbert property is due to be completed in the very near future.

Mr. Guzman continued reviewing the list of recommended properties, and pointed out the Carson River properties in which the Bureau of Land Management is interested. He advised that the BLM has indicated the acceptability of another agency owning the mercury contaminated properties, and the Division of State Lands has indicated a willingness to do so. In response to a question, Mr. Guzman advised that Gary Lehman has purchased and has options on most of the Goni properties. He acknowledged that Mr. Lehman's properties are not included in the SNPLMA recommendation. In response to a further question, he advised that the BLM's priorities are included in the list of recommended properties. He explained that the U.S. Forest Service and BLM designations indicate that the respective agencies are willing to accept title to the properties under the provisions of the SNPLMA. Member Fischer moved to accept staff's recommendation and move forward with the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act nomination. Member Pacheco seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

In response to a question, Mr. Guzman advised that the Committee will have sufficient time to act on the Gilbert property once the appraisal is available. Acting Chairperson Scott requested staff to provide a summary of available open space funds at the next meeting.

### G. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMITTEE MEMBER STATUS REPORTS (1-1490) - None.

- H. STATUS REPORTS FROM STAFF (1-1443) Mr. Guzman reported on the field trips attended by members of the Carson River Advisory Committee and the Open Space Advisory Committee on June 15<sup>th</sup> and June 29<sup>th</sup>. He referred to the e-mail from Tom Crawford of the BLM and provided a status report on the Pine Nut Mountains Plan Amendment process. Mr. Guzman referred to the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program report included in the agenda materials. He advised that staff is beginning discussions with BLM representatives to develop a program for appraisals, conservation easements, etc. City staff continues to work on two potential purchases as well as the SNPLMA nominations. Mr. Guzman reported on the Moffat property dedication ceremony and thanked the Committee members for their participation.
- **I. ADJOURNMENT** (1-1491) Member Fischer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Member Pacheco seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

The Minutes of the July 15, 2002 meeting of the Carson City Open Space Advisory Committee are so approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of August, 2002.

STEPHEN D. HARTMAN, Chair