

**Parks and Recreation Commission  
Staff Report**

**Meeting Date:** April 5, 2016

**Agenda Item Number:** 3H.

**Applicant:** Roger Moellendorf / Scott Fahrenbruch

**Request:** Discussion only, regarding the Board of Supervisors' action to terminate the Nevada Fair.

**General Discussion:**

During the March 3, 2016 Board of Supervisors' meeting the Board accepted the Parks and Recreation staff's recommendation to cancel the 2016 Nevada Fair and to pursue opportunities with the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, 4H and other interested entities to plan a comprehensive Nevada State Fair for 2017.

Staff made the recommendation to discontinue the Nevada Fair for the following reasons:

- 1) The Fair does not appear to be financially sustainable.
- 2) The absorbed costs by the Parks and Recreation Department and other city departments are not reimbursed, and the time spent on the Fair delays and defers regularly scheduled duties and responsibilities including maintenance work and projects. Parks and Recreation unclassified (salaried) staff contributed over 600 hours of their time to the Fair for an uncompensated in-kind amount of over \$40,000 to the Fair.
- 3) The Nevada State Fair, LLC has reserved Mills Park for June 9-12, 2016 for the State Fair. Staff believes this will cause confusion and competition among fairgoers, advertisers, vendors, sponsors and carnival operators. Susan Taylor, our Fair Consultant has advised staff that in her opinion, having two fairs within six weeks of each other will assure that both fairs will fail.
- 4) 4H feels that they do not have the resources to assist with a youth livestock component to the Fair in 2016.
- 5) The University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and 4H are interested in working with another entity such as the Nevada State Fair, LLC to plan a comprehensive state fair for 2017. The original impetus to hold the first Nevada Fair in 2014 was to promote Carson City as the future home of the Nevada State Fair. A collaborative effort between these three entities may help accomplish this original goal.

**Recommended Action:** This is a discussion only item and no action can be taken