

Carson City Redevelopment

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Date: August 26, 2015

To: Redevelopment Authority Citizens Committee

Special Meeting of September 2, 2015

From: Lee Plemel, Community Development Director

Subject: Action to make recommendations to the Redevelopment Authority regarding

Redevelopment priorities for the future use of undesignated Redevelopment

funds.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: I move to recommend to the Redevelopment Authority the Redevelopment objectives, programs and project priorities as approved by RACC for consideration in allocating the use of current and future available undesignated Redevelopment funds.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this item is to prioritize Redevelopment objectives, programs and projects to guide future use of available Redevelopment funds. Redevelopment staff suggests a two-step process in determining how to use available Redevelopment funds. The first step is to prioritize the objectives, programs and projects that the Redevelopment Authority should try to accomplish in the next few years. The second step is to allocate funding and develop applicable programs and policies to implement the objectives. Staff would come back to the RACC with more information regarding the top-ranked programs or projects after the Redevelopment objectives are prioritized by the Redevelopment Authority.

Attached is a draft list of Redevelopment objectives, programs, and projects that the RACC and Redevelopment Authority have discussed at some time over the last year or two. The RACC is asked to rank these for a recommendation to the Redevelopment Authority. The RACC may add other items or modify items on the list. The applicable Redevelopment Plan Objective is noted with each item.

The following documents are attached to help facilitate this discussion:

<u>Five-year Redevelopment budget projection</u> – The attached projection was prepared by the Finance Department when the FY 2015-16 Redevelopment budget was prepared. It assumes a "status quo" projection with general operating expenses, special event funding, and other expenses remaining the same. It anticipates a slight growth in property tax revenues, and also projects slight increases in salaries and benefits each year. The projections are estimates and are subject to actual revenues and budget decisions each year, but it should offer a general overview of anticipated available funds.

The key line-item to look at is the "Infrastructure Projects (undesignated)" line. These are the expected remaining funds, after other expenses are paid, that may be used to support new

Redevelopment programs. It is projected that approximately \$2 million will accrue in this budget category over the next five years.

<u>Redevelopment Area 1 Plan objectives</u> – The attached section of the Redevelopment Plan for Area 1 shows the established objectives for Area 1. Redevelopment Area 1 was established in 1986 and expires in January 2031.

<u>Redevelopment Area 2 Plan objectives</u> – The attached section of the Redevelopment Plan for Area 2 shows the established activities adopted to achieve the goals for Area 2. Redevelopment Area 2 was established in 2004 and expires in July 2034.

Note that the Redevelopment Area Plans do not prioritize the objectives and merely list a broad range of objectives that may be pursued. It is up the Redevelopment Authority to determine priorities of the objectives at any given time. The Plans enable the City to pursue a number of activities in the Redevelopment District but does not require action on any given objective. Priorities must be established for implementation, as it would be impossible to complete every objective within the Plans given limited Redevelopment resources.

Redevelopment Areas Map – The Redevelopment Areas Map shows the location of Redevelopment Areas 1 and 2, collectively referred to as the "Redevelopment District." Redevelopment funds are to be used to the benefit of these areas.

Redevelopment priorities may change over time. However, it is important to establish priorities to provide direction to City management and Redevelopment staff to allocate staff time and resources.

If you have any questions regarding this item, please contact Lee Plemel at 283-7075 or lplemel@carson.org.

Attachments:

- 1. Potential Redevelopment Objectives, Programs and Projects list
- 2. Five-year Redevelopment budget projection
- 3. Redevelopment Area 1 Plan objectives
- 4. Redevelopment Area 2 Plan objectives/activities
- 5. Redevelopment Areas Map (Areas 1 & 2)

Potential Redevelopment Objectives, Programs and Projects

- Expand the Downtown Streetscape Improvement Project to include the side streets between the proposed Carson Street and Curry Street improvements (e.g. continue sidewalk improvements on Musser, Proctor, Telegraph, Spear and Robinson Streets).
 - o Improve the street, highway, bicycle and pedestrian circulation system to assure safe, convenient and aesthetically pleasing access to and throughout the area. (Area 1, #303)
- Implement an incentive program to improve properties (e.g. façade improvement program to recondition existing façades).
 - Improve the appearance of commercial area through street beautification programs, building rehabilitation. (Area 1, #311)
 - Reuse of vacant retail buildings (Area 2, #8)
- Purchase property to redevelop.
 - Strengthen the local economy by attracting new and expanded private investment in the Area, create new employment opportunities, increase the City's tax base, and expand public revenue. (Area 1, #301)
- Provide downtown infrastructure to facilitate special events (e.g. equipment storage, tents, tables, chairs, street barricades, etc.).
 - Establish the highest possible level of recreational opportunity for the residents and visitors of all age levels. (Area 1, #320)
- Continue annual Special Event Funding.
 - Establish the highest possible level of recreational opportunity for the residents and visitors of all age levels. (Area 1, #320)
- Provide more directional signage.
 - Provide informational and directional kiosks in convenient pedestrian locations to allow visitors an opportunity to become familiar with the locations of the City's historic, business, cultural, gaming, recreational and other places of interest. (Area 1, #309)
- Assist with undergrounding and extension of utilities for new development (e.g. water, sewer, electrical, fiber optic outside of the Downtown project or other sales tax project areas).
 - Repair, construct, install, or replace new publicly owned utility systems such as water, storm drains and sanitary sewers where existing systems are nonexistent, inadequate, undersized or substandard. (Area 1, #302)
 - Underground present overhead utility systems where feasible and encourage the serving utility companies to assist in the costs thereof. (Area 1, #314)
 - Assist with construction of necessary utility lines to serve new development on commercial properties upon submittal of a plan for a project that would benefit the Redevelopment District. (Area 2, #9)

Carson City Redevelopment Authority Projection FY 2016 - FY 2020

REVENUES	FY 2016 Budgeted	FY 2017 Projection	FY 2018 Projection	FY 2019 Projection	FY 2020 Projection	
REVENUES						
Property Taxes	1,697,256	1,748,174	1,800,619	1,854,637	1,910,277	(3%/yr)
Interest Revenue	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	2,400	
Charges for Services	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
Beginning Fund Balance	202,166	172,235	200,000	200,000	200,000	
Total Revenue and Fund Balance	1,911,822	1,932,809	2,013,019	2,067,037	2,122,677	i
EXPENDITURES						
Debt Service (last payment 2021) Fiscal Charges	278,400 500	279,600 500	275,400 500	276,000 500	281,200 500	(Actual)
Salary and Benefits: Parks	64,535	66,794	69,132	71,551	74,055	(3.5%/yr)
Administrative	47,521	49,184	50,906	52,687	54,531	(3.5%/yr)
Other Expenditures						
Services & Supplies Special Events & Activities Nevada Day Farmers Market Christmas Tree Lighting Michael Hohl Incentive (end date 2020) Big 5 / Big Lots Incentive (end date 2026) Carson Mall Incentive (end date 2029) Revolving Loan Program 3rd Street Project	219,573 65,000 25,000 15,000 10,000 480,000 50,000 100,000 1 218,058	225,000 65,000 25,000 15,000 10,000 480,000 50,000 100,000 1	225,000 65,000 25,000 15,000 10,000 480,000 50,000 100,000 1	225,000 65,000 25,000 15,000 10,000 480,000 50,000 100,000 1	225,000 65,000 25,000 15,000 10,000 480,000 50,000 100,000 1	
Infrastructure Projects (Undesignated)	165,999	366,730	447,081	496,298	542,389	
Ending Fund Balance	172,235	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	•
Total Expenses and Fund Balance	1,911,822	1,932,809	2,013,019	2,067,037	2,122,677	:
Tot Revenue less Expenses	-	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	:
Services and Supplies:						
General Fund Internal Service Charges Professional Services Rent and Utilities Advertising/Marketing Publications Misc Serv & Supp (dues, supplies, etc.)	105,492 20,000 21,718 9,000 16,000 47,363 219,573					

REDEVELOPMENT PLAN

FOR THE

CARSON CITY REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT NO. 1

FEBRUARY 6, 1986

Prepared By

Carson City Redevelopment Authority

In Cooperation With

Carson City Planning Commission

Assisted By

Patterson, Stewart and Associates

and

Region West Research Consultants

SECTION 300 - REDEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES

The principal objectives of the City and of this Plan is to improve the 488 acre Redevelopment Project Area economically, physically and aesthetically—making the Area more attractive for private sector development and redevelopment and to protect the substantial public investment in State and City facilities. Further objectives are to correct deficiencies in the Area's aging infrastructure, repair and modify the present street system, provide amenities for the use and enjoyment of the people of Carson City and the many visitors who travel to this capitol city annually for business and recreation reasons. The following more specifically describe the intent, purpose and objectives of this Redevelopment Plan:

- 301. Strengthen the local economy by attracting new and expanded private investments in the Area, create new employment opportunities, increase the City's tax base, and expand public revenue to be used to improve the quality of life for the people of Carson City;
- 302. Repair, construct, install, or replace new publicly owned utility systems such as water, storm drains and sanitary sewers where existing systems are nonexistent, inadequate, undersized or substandard.
- 303. Improve the street, highway, bicycle and pedestrian circulation system to assure safe, convenient and aesthetically pleasing access to and throughout the Area;
- 304. Develop a physical linkage and an appropriate transportation mode among the Virginia and Truckee (V & T) Roundhouse, the Downtown and the Railroad Museum;
- 305. Promote the restoration of the V & T Roundhouse;
- 306. Develop a common theme in the housing, business and government sectors of the Redevelopment Area, to unify the mixture of residential, office, retail, lodging, gaming and government facilities by understanding, respecting and utilizing the City's rich historic past and its roll as Capitol of the State of Nevada;
- 307. Establish a unifying tree planting program throughout the Redevelopment Area.
- 308. Develop appropriately designed street lighting, street signage and street furniture systems with a full understanding of the diversity and special character of the several functional and historic use areas within the Project Area;

- 309. Provide informational and directional kiosks in convenient pedestrian locations to allow visitors an opportunity to become familiar with the locations of the City's historic, business, cultural, gaming, recreational and other places of interest;
- 310. Develop additional, conveniently located parking facilities—including parking structures where appropriate—together with pleasant, auto-free, pedestrian ways linking business, government and places of historic interest;
- 311. Improve the appearance of commercial areas through street beautification programs, building rehabilitation and improved development requirements in the areas of sign controls and landscaping;
- 312. Encourage more intensive landscaping on Downtown properties and parking lots;
- 313. Encourage and assist in providing "people oriented areas" in the Downtown for daytime and evening special events and promotional activity;
- 314. Underground present overhead utility systems where feasible and encourage the serving utility companies to assist in the costs thereof;
- 315. Integrate and protect older existing structures having historic value, with new development;
- 316. Cooperate and support officially recognized Historic Preservation and Architectural Review groups in their undertaking of the design for the restoration and rehabilitation of historically designated structures and places;
- 317. Provide informational plaques for on-site display in conjunction with recognized historic structures and places;
- 318. Accommodate planned population growth in ways which will not damage the social, economic and environmental well being of Carson City;
- 319. Continue and enhance a land use pattern which creates vitality through diversity in activities and the age of improvements;
- 320. Establish the highest possible level of recreational opportunity for the residents and visitors of all age levels;

- 321. Promote greater cooperation between City and School District in the joint use of public land for school-park-recreation purposes;
- 322. Promote greater cooperation between City and State government in order to achieve harmony in public development;
- 323. Initiate programs with appropriate public and private groups to develop decent, safe and sanitary housing for persons and families in the Redevelopment Area who are living under substandard conditions; and
- 324. Where rehabilitation of property may be unfeasible and where clearance and redevelopment may be necessary to eliminate blighting influences, cause such property to be cleared and redeveloped and in the process, assist and encourage the owners of such property to participate in these activities.

2. DESCRIPTION AND MAP OF THE PROJECT AREA

The boundaries of Project Area No. 2 are shown on the map and the boundary description has been incorporated into the ordinance that adopts the Redevelopment Plan

3. PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT ACTIONS

A. Specific Redevelopment Activities

The Redevelopment Authority plans to carry out the following strategies to achieve the goals of redevelopment in Project Area No. 2:

- 1. **Assistance with site acquisition:** The Redevelopment Authority, by assisting with site acquisition for auto dealers, has the ability to influence the economics related to the expansion or retention of auto sales on South Carson Street. The use of financing tools and public/private partnerships will allow the Redevelopment Authority to work with existing auto dealers to obtain commitments to remain doing business and to expand their operations on South Carson Street.
- 2. **Relocation assistance:** The Redevelopment Authority has the capability to assist auto dealers to relocate from other parts of the region to South Carson Street. For example, auto sales operations currently located on North Carson Street could benefit from clustering with the dealers on South Carson Street to produce the synergy of an auto row.
- 3. **Expansion in number of franchises:** For example, Carson City lacks the following franchises: Volkswagen, BMW, Mitsubishi, Acura, and Mercedes. The Redevelopment Authority could provide inducements for auto dealers to increase the number of franchises offered on South Carson Street.
- 4. **Armory Site:** Currently, the State of Nevada owns the site of the former Nevada National Guard. With the concurrence of the State, the Redevelopment Authority could work with the State of Nevada to maximize private development potential on this site through the means authorized by this Plan.
- 5. Improvements in traffic circulation, landscaping and streetscape: South Carson Street is currently a major state highway making access difficult. Also, it has limited landscaping and attractive visual amenities. The anticipated completion of the freeway from Fairview Drive to South Carson Street will significantly reduce traffic and leave South Carson Street in City control, with the need to transition the street back from a state highway to a local arterial street serving the properties along it. The Redevelopment Authority has the ability to invest in infrastructure, traffic improvements, landscaping, maintenance and other public enhancements to improve

- traffic circulation and the appearance of South Carson Street. This strategy includes forming a business improvement district to address maintenance needs in the area.
- 6. **Marketing assistance:** A strong marketing program has the potential of contributing to the success of auto sales operations on South Carson Street. The Redevelopment Authority can assist auto dealers with marketing efforts to enhance Carson City as an auto purchase destination for the region. This assistance could include helping to establish a strong and active Dealer Group to conduct destination advertising and other marketing efforts such as special events. It could also include assistance with signs and other design features to create identity for South Carson Street as an auto purchase destination for the region.
- 7. **Re-use of existing sites if a regional auto mall proceeds:** If a regional auto mall is developed in Carson City, the Redevelopment Authority could assist dealers to obtain productive and financially viable re-use of their existing sites on South Carson Street.
- 8. **Re-use of vacant retail buildings:** Since the Plan was adopted in 2004, numerous businesses have been affected by the economy, resulting in a high commercial vacancy rate. Additionally, the vacant former K-Mart building on North Carson Street has been added to the plan to address the vacancies and deterioration of the property and other properties in the vicinity. The Redevelopment Authority could assist with various types of incentives, including economic studies, to encourage new, viable uses for these buildings.
- 9. **Utility Extensions**: While the Plan Project Area is largely served by existing public infrastructure, there are some properties to which utilities such as water and sewer lines do not currently reach. The Redevelopment Authority could assist in constructing necessary utility lines to serve new development on commercial properties within the Plan Project Area upon submittal of a plan for a project that would benefit the Redevelopment District.
- 10. **NDOT right-of-way:** The Nevada Department of Transportation owns significant right-of-way along Carson Street. In some cases, NDOT owns up to 70 feet of property behind existing street improvements. This significantly limits adjacent property owners' ability to use this property for economic development purposes. The Redevelopment Authority can assist property owners in working with NDOT to dispose of these excess rights-of-way or provide financial assistance to help to lease or purchase these rights-of-way from NDOT to the extent the law and NDOT may authorize.

In conducting the redevelopment activities as set forth above, the Redevelopment Authority shall be enabled by the authority and requirements set forth in Section 5 of the Plan.

