

OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 22, 2016

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3F

STAFF: Roger Moellendorf, Director
Ann Bollinger, Open Space Administrator
Richard Wilkinson, Senior Natural Resource Specialist

REQUEST: **For Possible Action:** To recommend approval to the Board of Supervisors of the “Management Plan for Carson City Open Space and Parks in the Carson River Area”.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The completed draft “Management Plan” was presented to the public in July 2014. One public workshop was held in the Community Center and presentations were given at the Open Space Advisory Committee, Parks and Recreation Commission, and Carson City Board of Supervisors. In addition to those forums, written comments were received. In total, more than 200 comments were reviewed. While there were several changes throughout the document, staff would like to highlight a few specific areas as identified below. Please use this link to access the Management Plan online www.carson.org/PROSdocuments

- Page 1-6, Future Planning Efforts: Changes/Additions: The addition of one paragraph referring to Future Planning Efforts.
- Page 2-23, Silver Saddle Ranch: Develop a site plan including all proposed improvements and adjacent resources. Response: This recommendation was included in the first draft, but it’s important to highlight the significance of developing a site plan.
- Page 3-12 – Page 3-19, Golden Eagle Open Space and Mexican Dam Open Space: The first draft recommended, “Research and determine a final conclusion to legal public use on Golden Eagle Lane.” Response: Staff researched the access question as it relates to the last stretch of Golden Eagle Lane and has determined that it is a private road.
- Page 3-14, Golden Eagle Open Space: Changes/Additions: The addition of two recommended actions including: Due to an agreement recorded in 1985, the Open Space Program should financially contribute towards maintenance of the road starting from this property and ending at northeast end of Golden Eagle Lane.
- Page 3-16, Mexican Dam Open Space: Changes/Additions: The addition of the second and third paragraphs regarding access along Golden Eagle Lane.
- Page 3-19, Mexican Dam Open Space: Changes/Additions: Five changes to the recommended actions.

- Page 4-8, Carson River Park: Changes/Additions: The addition of four recommended actions.
- Page 5-18, Hunting: Changes/Additions: In the previous draft, hunting was briefly discussed under the Shooting section. In this final draft, hunting is discussed in its own section including the recent recommendation from the Open Space Advisory Committee related to hunting on the Carson River Canyon Open Space.
- Page 5-21, Shooting: Changes/Additions: In the previous draft, hunting was briefly discussed under the Shooting section. In this final draft, hunting is discussed in its own section. A summary of permitted and restricted uses was added.
- Page 5-31, Weed and Invasive Aquatic Species Control: Changes/Additions: Invasive aquatic species was added to this section.
- Page 5-33, Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat: Changes/Additions: The new section was added.
- Page 7-1, Staffing: Changes/Additions: Changes reflect updates to the current and future staff.
- Page 7-4, Non-Profit and Other Organizations: Changes/Additions: Added River Wranglers and the Carson Water Subconservancy District.

Staff would like to report that some recommendations have been or are in progress of being implemented, such as:

- Page 2-14: Recommended Action: OHV use on the north end of the Prison Hill Recreation Area, around 5th Street, is prohibited and should be managed as such. It was not a designated OHV area by BLM and such use is prohibited by the terms in the Conservation Easement. Response: Prior to the land conveyance, BLM assisted in the first efforts to close the area through the use of signage and boulders. Carson City added split-rail fence to better delineate the boundary and parking area.
- Page 2-24: Recommended Action: Improve the pedestrian "v" gates near the main entrance and near the Carson River Park fishing pier to allow bicycles and strollers. Response: In progress. In addition to this location, a "u" style gate which also meets guidelines from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was already installed at the north end of the Prison Hill Recreation Area and is being installed at the main entrance of Silver Saddle Ranch.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: I move to recommend approval to the Board of Supervisors of the "Management Plan for Carson City Open Space and Parks in the Carson River Area".